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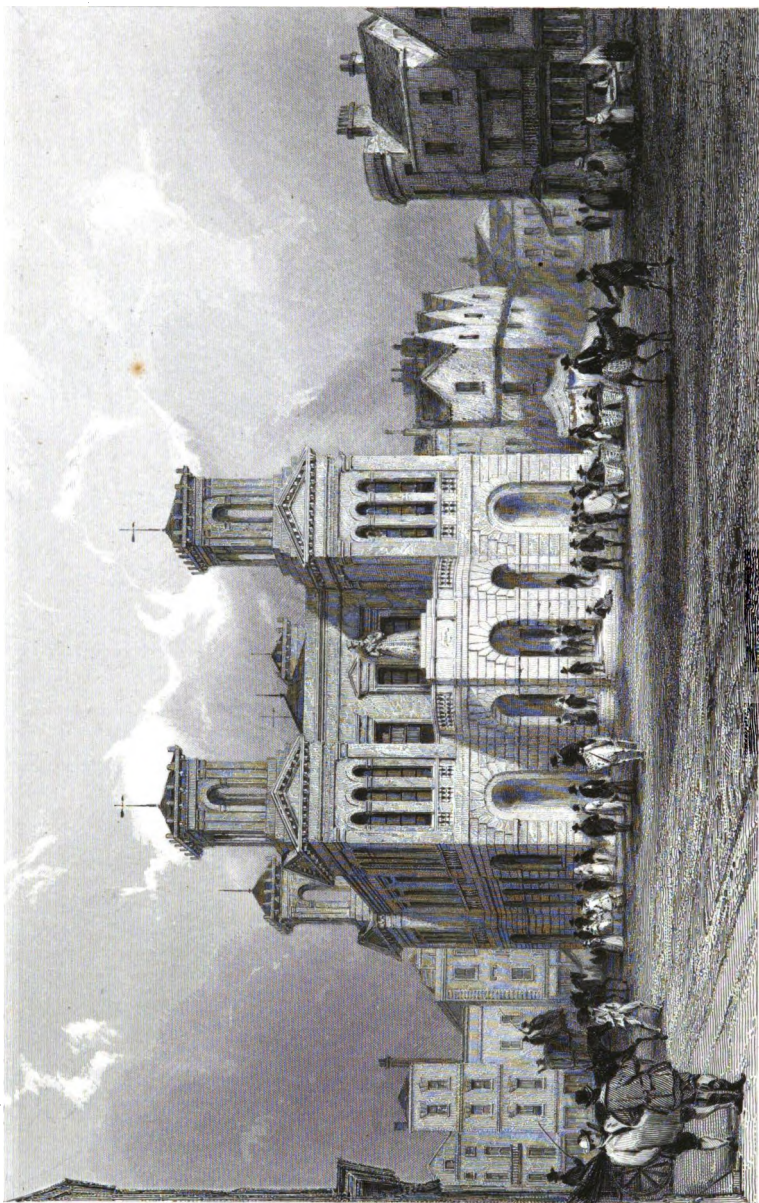
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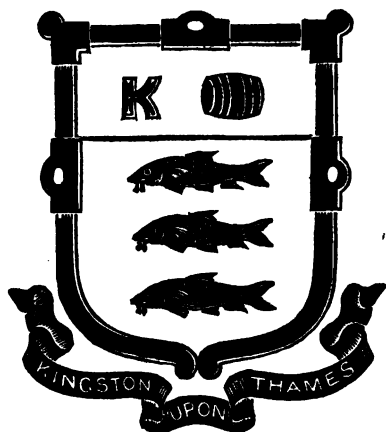
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L. A. Smith.

*Kingston Town. H. G. Smith.*

THE  
HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES  
OF THE  
Ancient and Royal Town  
OF  
KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES,

COMPILED FROM  
THE MOST AUTHENTIC DOCUMENTS  
BY W. D. BIDEN.



Kingston:  
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY AND FOR WILLIAM LINDSEY,  
THAMES-STREET.

1852.

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WILLIAM LINDSEY, PRINTER, THAMES-STREET, KINGSTON.

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## Preface.

When the Prince of literary Cynics fed at the hospitable table of Lord Monboddo, it pleased him to court an easy digestion by indulging in a series of ill-natured snarls at the expense of History. His dessert consisted of a tirade against History in general, which he delighted to represent as meagre in interest and barren in precept. And too many, in the present day, who dare not affect to soar amid Johnsonian heights; yet venture, for the sake of following so renowned a leader, to imitate, as more native to their tastes, his grovelling propensity for disparagement; by impugning the dignity of history and feigning scorn for its writers.

It might therefore be supposed, that no one of ordinary susceptibility would venture on a task, whose execution is certain to bring down upon his devoted head the censure of the would-be-great and the contempt of the confessedly little; unless some valued prize or high distinction were proposed as an object worthy of regard; and which he might secure by running the gauntlet with these mighty (because legionary) antagonists. But there *is* a dignity in history, apart from its utility, which, if even the latter were deficient, would command respect. Honour lurks in many places unobserved, concealed; and the raising of the veil, the clearing of the rubbish heaped by envious or malicious hands upon the noble, is surely not so mean an act as to deserve contempt, or merit after-dinner gibes. And though the present attempt to rescue from oblivion a Town, whose past career has been ever crowned with honest loyalty;—though the *will* to raise the veil, thrown over this hearth of England's early home, be not fairly expressed by the *deed*; there are lessons in the following pages, which Johnson himself, might have treasured for his own profit—moral truths enforced, the disparagement of which will reflect no credit on the head or heart of him who shall essay the feat.

It would argue a very discourteous imputation of want of discernment on the part of his readers, were a writer to point out expressly and dogmatically every element of moral teaching in his work; it would justly expose him to the reproach, wantonly cast on the historian by the loud-voiced egotist, and would fairly render him amenable to the charge of hesitancy in the belief that his self-imposed task was worth the labour involved in its accomplishment; or on the other hand to a charge of folly, in attempting to contribute to the gratification of those, whose powers of enjoyment are limited by an utter inappreciation of all beauty; were he to endeavour to act the Cicerone to their heart, whose heads he can not impress, by appending to each narrative a special moral.

He who cannot distinguish the tints of the rainbow may well be excused, if he fail to appreciate the admiration of those who see in it a lovely image of His beneficence who made it an emblem and pledge of mercy:—He who never left the hamlet of his birth, may be allowed to wonder or to doubt, when arrested by the narratives of those, whose larger experience enables them to tell of other lands, and people of a different fashion:—and the heedless earth-worm, if such there be, who never deigned to raise his sordid eyes toward the star-spangled vault of heaven; who never looked beyond himself;—must be pitied while permitted to hesitate in allowing, that the glowing worlds above speak, with the touching language of their brilliant orbs, to those who love to read:—but what can be urged in mitigation of his

fault who finds, or pretends to find, in the dealings of Providence with man, no beauty, no source of admiration or of gratitude ?

If it be true that all histories of human compilation are tempered by the prejudices of the writer ;—if it be true that no man can narrate facts without impressing on them the image of his own judgment ;—(and it must be confessed that the charge is not altogether without foundation ; for the vivid impressions received in youth, and the powerful hold those impressions obtain on the mind, while it is yet open to every outward influence, and almost all ideas are new, constitute a kind of ground-work which tints or shadows all the after-experiences of life) ; yet every poison has its antidote ; and the comprehension of a writer's bent of mind, the knowledge of the point of view from which he sees the object he describes, will materially tend to counteract the evil likely to result from any undue influence this infirmity or false position may have exercised on his narration. In reading or in conversation, the *early* life and education of an author or speaker should be therefore constantly borne in mind, and, if possible, the bent of his thoughts clearly ascertained.

One whose education, and therefore, whose range of thought, is very limited, may possibly be guided in all his judgments by *one* strong feeling, manifest and therefore easily to be guarded against ; but he whose advantages have been greater, and whose course of study has been more enlarged, bringing continually to bear on every new subject a more experienced and better trained judgment, will not exhibit so strongly marked a mental impulse. But still, the first glance at any object leaves an ineffaceable impression, which colours the idea of it for ever after : and while the student is bound, in justice to himself, to struggle against any evil effect of this first impression, and to prevent its warping his own judgment ; he is no less bound, in his duty to others with whom he may hold intercourse, to warn them of the strongly formed first feeling with which he is conscious of having had cause to strive, too frequently without success.

To acquit himself of this responsibility, the compiler of the present History would therefore detain his readers a short time, trusting that the perusal of a Preface will not be a labour lost ; inasmuch as it will enable the reader more readily to appreciate many remarks that follow, and will perhaps serve as an apology for expressions that otherwise might appear unaccountable.

When the writer was a child, living in a village remarkable for the friendly intercourse existing among its inhabitants, and situate within a few miles of Kingston, he *occasionally* visited the town, which *then* appeared to him a picture of dull, cold insensibility.

Kingston fixed itself indelibly upon his mind (for he has never lost the impress of it) as a town dedicated to dulness ; and its people were to him the scarcely living representatives of inactivity and frigid unfriendliness : but as he became better acquainted with the place, Kingston became an object of interest from its *historic associations* : and its people, cold and distant though they *were*, held a prominent position in his esteem, as the successors of those who, in ages past, had witnessed there the inauguration of our first monarchs, and of those who had always deserved the honor of a Royal Name :—

Kingston was the *Metropolis of the Anglo-Saxon Kings*, the venerable *Altar of the Founders of England's Sovereignty* ; where their kingly vows were made and their pledges given, that England's Sons should be justly governed, and her laws well observed :—

Kingston shone as the *Nursery of England's greatness* ; for when the petty chieftains, who had long divided the country among them, were sub-



dued under one head; and when, during the continuance of a whole Dynasty, *one king ruled where many had previously defied all rule*, Kingston was the Sovereign's residence; here our kings were crowned; here our wise men assembled in council; here were framed the laws which are now the basis of our freedom; here kings lived among their people; and here they have left a memorial which will never die while Kingston is;—but

Kingston was *unfortunate*. It fell without dishonour; and the history of its fall added fresh interest to its name. Kingston appeared as under a cloud, fallen through no fault or failing of its own, scorned without cause, cast away as a favorite out of date, and left to struggle with *poverty and neglect*.

Kingston was the *Glory of the Anglo-Saxon Kings* and rejected by Normans for that reason. Fearful of recalling to the mind of a subdued people the memory of their loved and native sovereigns, the Normans removed the seat of power, and discarded the city in which the crown had heretofore been placed upon the rightful owners. And though in after ages, when interest induced these sovereigns to ally themselves with the Saxon Royal Family, Monarchs again made Kingston a Royal Residence; they gradually withdrew from it, and

Kingston *suffered*:—Norman historians, actuated by the spirit of their masters, cast a veil over the town of Saxon note; and not content with silencing the voice of contemporary history, they attempted to throw doubts and obstacles in the way of a right understanding of those older records they could not destroy:—yet

Kingston, the Royal—*was and is true to England's Sovereign*, and it never flinched from asserting the cause of monarchy against its enemies:—the most disloyal act it ever committed was when, in ignorance and not in malice, its chief magistrate compelled our much loved Sovereign to walk her horses through the town, from the motive which actuated the Saxon Thanes of old “that she might be seen the better by the people:”—this was after

Kingston, in common with other Corporate Towns had lost its ancient charters, and *its children were not true to themselves*. Some who, by the new constitution, were made eligible to office, sought it, as too many do, by raising an outcry against those who had held office before. It was said that, as Guardians of Trust Monies, the Corporation had been unfaithful: it was urged that the members of the old Council had enriched themselves at the expense of the Body Corporate. But why repeat these idle charges?—The result, as far as the writer of these pages is concerned was, that

The few records (those dark and smothered glimpses) of Kingston's story, which had been preserved from utter destruction, were collected, and, at the request of the Publisher of the present volume a selection is now presented to the notice of Kingston's Sons, that they may know the honors of the place in which they dwell, and if possessed of further information communicate it to the compiler.

In the preparation of this History, which has been an agreeable employment, and has rendered many midnight vigils pleasant, much valuable assistance has been rendered by DR. WILLIAM ROOTS, whose stores of antiquarian knowledge have been freely opened on the application of the key of enquiry; and to MR. ATTFIELD is due the statement of the present condition of the different Charities. To these Gentlemen and all others who have assisted him in his task the writer here tenders his warmest thanks.

5, Clifton Place North,  
Camberwell New Road,  
April 22, 1852.

## Table of Contents.

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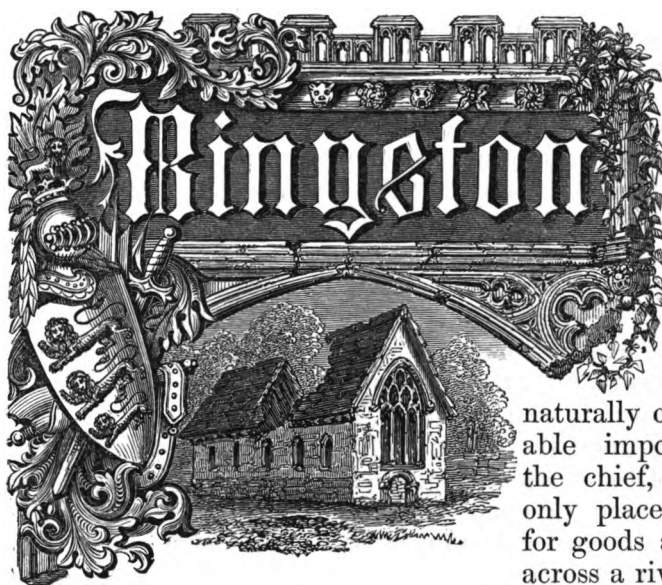
	PAGE
Kingston a place of Importance in the British and Roman Eras; the Metropolis of the United Heptarchy.....	1
Its internal condition since the Conquest, illustrated by the Charters	11
Kingston during the Civil Wars.....	25
The Church and Ecclesiastical Matters.....	35
The Bridge .....	59
Municipal Affairs, &c. ....	63
Charities .....	71
Norbiton and Combe .....	91
Canbury, Ham and Hatch .....	99
Surbiton, Hook and Berwell-court.....	102
Appendix .....	107

# A NEW HISTORY OF KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES.

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## CHAPTER I.

KINGSTON A PLACE OF IMPORTANCE IN THE BRITISH AND ROMAN  
ERAS—THE METROPOLIS OF THE UNITED HEPTARCHY.



Is situated at or near the site of a British ford which, being the first practicable one above the sea, was

naturally of considerable importance, as the chief, if not the only place of transit for goods and troops, across a river separat-

ing two large tracts of country comparatively well peopled and whose inhabitants were constantly at war, either among themselves or with the armies of foreigners.

During Cæsar's military career in Gaul, he frequently met with vigorous resistance from British forces. He therefore determined on visiting and subduing a people who opposed

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him with more skill and intrepidity than the fierce and undisciplined people with whom he was at war. In pursuing this object Cæsar landed in Kent. After several minor defeats and much vexatious skirmishing, the British leader, disheartened by a defection among his troops, and fearing to keep the field with divided forces, retreated to his own dominions on the north of the Thames. The Romans eagerly followed in his track, to prevent a re-organization of the Native forces, and to render any attempt at entrenchment abortive. After a tedious march of about 80 Roman miles,<sup>a</sup> they overtook the Britons at the *only ford* by which the river could be crossed: a sanguinary engagement ensued, and the invader obtained possession of, and crossed the ford. This combat was the principal cause of Cæsar's success at this time; for the Britons, who considered Cassivelaunus their general as a usurper, left him in large numbers; and though he maintained for some time an unequal contest with the Romans, his power was gone; and when those who had deserted him entered into a league with his opponent, all hopes of success became vain, and he submitted. The battle at the ford may be considered as the key to the Roman conquest of Britain; and the question of the *situation* of this ford is one of no small interest. Kingston and Walton have laid claim to the interest attached to the conflict; but it appears beyond all doubt that the claim of Kingston alone is tenable, since there was but one ford, and there was certainly a ford at Kingston.

Cæsar tells us that Cassivelaunus, whose legitimate territory was on the north side of the Thames, about 80 miles from the sea, was chosen commander-in-chief of the British forces,<sup>b</sup> and that, shortly after the Roman invasion, he retreated across the river, into his own country. Thither Cæsar followed, and on arriving upon the confines of Cassivelaunus' dominions at the only place at which foot soldiers could cross, he found his enemy upon the opposite bank, which had been hurriedly fortified with sharp stakes to prevent his passage. The bed of the river was likewise armed with stakes of the same descrip-

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<sup>a</sup> About 72 miles English.

<sup>b</sup> Summa imperii bellicæ administrandi, communi consilio, permissa est Cassivelauno, cujus fines a maritimis civitatibus flumen dividit, quod appellatur Tamesis, a mari circiter millia passuum 80. Huic, superiori tempore, cum reliquis civitatibus continentia bella intercesserant; sed nostro adventu permoti Britanni, hunc toti bello imperioque præfecerant.

tion. The Roman cavalry were ordered to advance first; the foot soldiers followed, and the ford was quickly carried.<sup>c</sup>

Bede was of opinion that certain stakes found in the river near Chertsey, and now known as the Coway Stakes, were remains of the British works: but, besides the great thickness of these stakes as described by Bede (about that of a man's thigh) and their position *across* the Thames, instead of lining its northern bank, *they were surrounded with lead*. Now the Britons fortified their position *hurriedly* with *sharp* stakes to prevent the passage of an enemy following closely behind them: how then can we suppose these stakes to have been either *shod* with lead, which would at least have been a very unnecessary source of delay, or capped with a metal so little calculated to serve as a weapon of offence. Surely the Coway Stakes had some other origin.

The ford was protected, during the British dominion, by the proximity of a strongly fortified camp or entrenchment, whose remains are still in a state of good preservation.<sup>d</sup> The supposed site of a British *craal* has likewise been pointed out on the right bank of the river, about half a mile below the present bridge: and on the opposite side is an undoubted burial place of the aborigines.<sup>e, f, & g</sup>

<sup>c</sup> Cæsar, cognito consilio eorum, ad flumen Tamesin, in fines Cassivelauni, exercitum duxit: quod flumen uno omnino loco pedibus, atque hoc aegre, transiri potest. Eo quum venisset, animadvertit ad alteram fluminis ripam magnas esse copias hostium instructas. Ripa autem erat acutis sudiis prefixis munita: ejusdemque generis sub aqua defixæ sudes flumine tegebantur. Iis rebus cognitis a captivis perfugisque, Cæsar, præmisso equitatu, confestim legiones subsequi jussit. Sed ea celeritate atque impetu milites ierunt quum capite solo ex aqua exstarent, ut hostes impetum legionum atque equitum sustinere non possent, ripaque demitterent, ac se fugæ mandarent.

Polyenus says that Cæsar employed an *elephant* at the passage of the river.

<sup>d</sup> The British camp is situate at the S. W. angle of Wimbledon common, in a very commanding situation, overlooking a large extent of country stretching for many miles to the south, west and north. Its outline is nearly circular and a roadway passes through the centre.

The defences consist of an outer and inner rampart, with a fosse between; so that the forces employed in the protection of the camp might, according to an established principle of British tactics, form in concentric circles, and in case of temporary defeat, retreat from rampart to rampart, so as to wear out an opposing force.

It is not improbable that the Romans made temporary use of this encampment, until they obtained permanent possession of the country and established themselves somewhat nearer the river on Kingston hill.

<sup>e</sup> There are, in the neighbourhood, several barrows or Celtic burial places; among which may be more particularly mentioned, Cockcrow hill, Barrow field in Teddington, and several in Richmond park and on the Warren.

<sup>f</sup> There is every reason to believe that the river, at this time, had a much wider and shallower channel than at present; that it extended, indeed, on the right bank, as far as the foot of Kingston hill. The geological character of the whole district supports this opinion. The ancient bank of the river is clearly distinguishable from Ditton northward to Richmond: and the flat lying between the stream and this ridge is a river deposit, full of fresh water shells which are not to be found in the rising ground adjoining. The extreme width and shallowness of the river here in former times account for the foundation

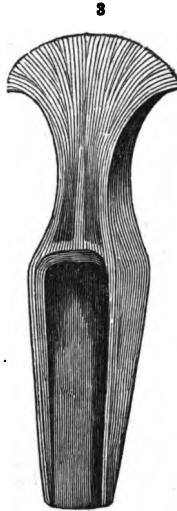
When, in the year 43, the Romans under Claudius gained more substantial possession of our country, and began to colonize it, to build cities and construct permanent roadways; the necessity for commanding a safe and easy passage of the Thames at this part became so evident, that the emperor con-

of the Roman town having been laid upon the hill, as well as for the Saxon name Moreford, by which the place was afterwards called, and for the subsequent removal of the site of the town to a more convenient position on the alteration of the river's channel and its artificial embankment.

Remains of warlike weapons have been, from time to time, discovered here in the bed of the river, more particularly on the Middlesex shore. The weapons found are principally Roman, and by their position on the left or Cassivelaunus's shore, and by their number, certainly tell their own tale of a sharp and perhaps sanguinary conflict at this spot. Several of these instruments as well as others found on the hill, are in the possession of Dr. Wm. Roots, who has kindly furnished the following descriptions and illustrations.



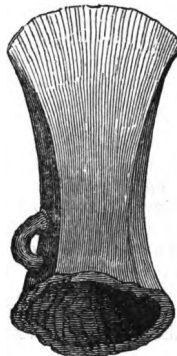
No. 1.—A ROMAN JUG, dug up on Kingston hill; height, six inches; circumference, thirteen inches.



No. 2.—A SEPULCHREAL URN, dug up on Kingston hill; which, when found, was half full of ashes: height, six inches; width, four inches.

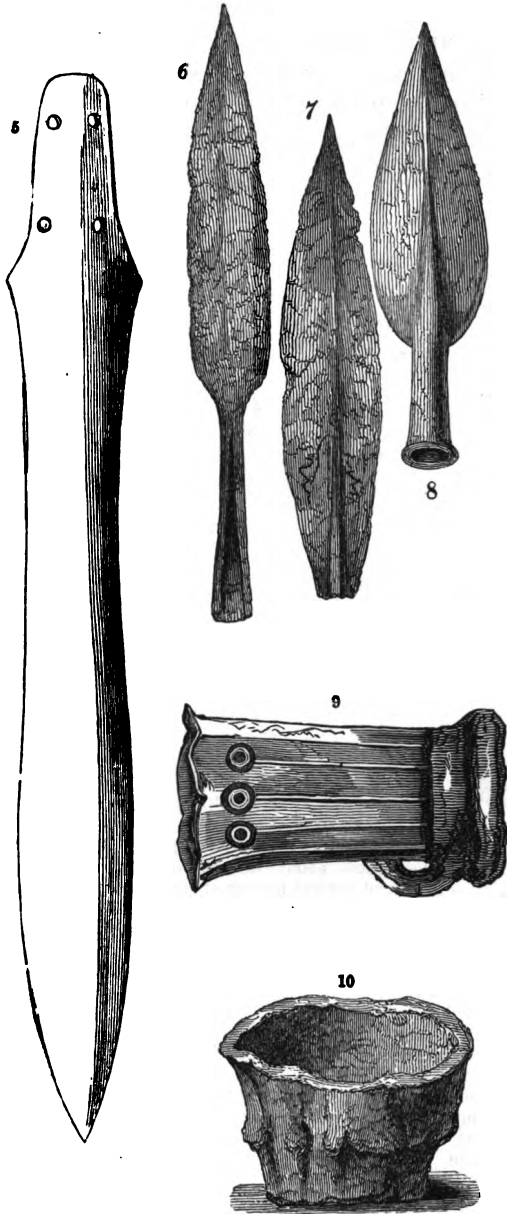


No. 3.—A MISSIVE HATCHET of bronze, found on Kingston hill: its length is five inches and a half. Near the same locality several masses of unwrought bronze have been met with.



No. 4.—Another missive weapon, or CELT, of the length of two inches and a half, found in digging gravel near Combe wood, between Kingston hill and the old Entrenchment, and close to the spot where the urn No. 2 was found.

structed a substantial wooden bridge here for the transit of his troops and the convenience of the inhabitants whom, having subjugated, he now endeavoured by all means to conciliate.



No. 5.—A BRONZE SWORD, seventeen inches in length, of simple fashion, with four rivet holes for the attachment of a hilt.

No. 6 & 7.—SPEARHEADS of iron, much corroded, dug up from the bed of the Thames near Surbiton: one of them is ten inches long; and the other, eleven inches and a half.

No. 8.—A SPEAR HEAD, of bronze, found on Wimbledon common, near Kingston hill. Aubrey, speaking of this eminence, says, "On the rising of the Hill stands the gallows, in a dry gravel-ground, where they often find *Roman Urns*."—SURREY, vol. i. p. 16.

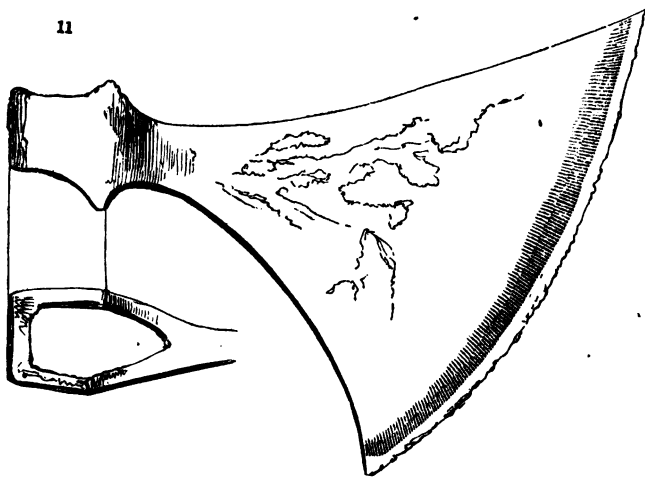
No. 9.—A CELT, three inches and five-eighths in length.

No. 10.—A LACHRYMATORY, or *Thuringium*, found on Kingston hill, very near the spot where the urn and celt were discovered: the wood-cut is nearly the size of the original.

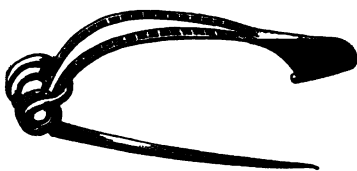
For the protection of this bridge, as well as for the greater security of the recently subdued province, Claudius and his immediate successors caused a town and fortress to be erected on the summit of the hill, commanding the approach on the Surrey side of the river, and constructed a road<sup>h</sup> from Tooting through Wimbledon and the British camp (now called Cæsar's) to the town and bridge.

Of this town called Thamesæ,<sup>i</sup> few remains exist at the present day; but in digging upon the slope of the hill many vestiges of Roman colonization have been from time to time

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No. 11.—AN  
AXE HEAD OF  
IRON, measur-  
ing eight inch-  
es by seven,  
very thin in  
substance and  
therefore fit  
for a weapon  
of war only, its  
weight being  
by no means  
sufficient for  
the woodman's  
purpose.



In digging for the foundation of the new bridge, several Roman military weapons, consisting of spear heads and swords of beautiful workmanship and in a good state of preservation, were found: and about the same time also were discovered several human skeletons, with Roman ornaments lying near them, in a field not far from

the spot on the Surrey side of the river: a BRASS CLASP, the spring of which is as perfect and elastic as when new may be instanced as a most interesting specimen.

<sup>h</sup> Gale, in his *Itinerary, or Roman Road Book* says that the Romans, under Plantius, constructed a road through Wimbledon and the Gaulic camp to Kingston, an ancient Town, doubtless fortified by the earliest victorious Roman generals. The passage runs thus: "Occidentalior" (viarum) "per Wimblestone & Vallum Germanorum,"\* qui hic sub A. Plautio meruere, pergunt ad Kingstonium, vetus oppidum haud dubie a primis Romanorum victoriis firmatum praesidiis —: id situs, et Provinciae tutela postulabant, hic Romani primo Thamesin per pontem trajiciebant, et forte Claudius ipse."

<sup>i</sup> Gale says "Antiquum autem hujus stationis nomen, sic colligo; Ravennas illud Tamesin facit; hoc enim ordine locat Durobrabis, Londini, Tamesæ, Brinavis. Post Londinium nullum est aliud oppidum, quod ea probabilitate Tamesam dixeris ac Kingstonium."

\* The camp above-mentioned.



discovered: and these of such a character as to shew that the place was one of no small importance. The foundations of walls, household utensils, and coins of brass, silver, and gold have been found in great abundance; and in 1722 a large number of funeral urns, wholly or partially filled with ashes, the remains of an ancient Roman cemetery, were dug up near the same spot.

Thamesa was also one of the few towns in which Roman coins were struck. For among the ruins, not only coins, but masses of silver, ready for the smith, plates beaten out in preparation for coining, and dies and coining apparatus have been discovered.

The coins of most frequent occurrence are those of Dioclesian, the Maximinians, Maximus, Constantius and Constantine the Great. The most recent bear the inscription **DIVO CONSTANTIO PIO**: and their occurrence brings down the history of Thamesa to the beginning of the fourth century.

During the residence of the Romans in England, they made London the seat of government, and the principal traffic of the country passed through that city. Kingston therefore necessarily became a place of secondary import; and when, after the decay and final removal of the Roman power, the Saxons obtained possession of the country, and determined again to restore Kingston to its lost position, as the metropolis, they not only rebuilt the bridge, which had been suffered to fall into a most dilapidated condition, but removed the town to a site more suitable for trade and for the protection of the bridge and the traffic over the Thames.

At the time of this restoration the bridge was re-constructed half a mile higher up the river, and the old Roman town was totally demolished to furnish materials for the construction of its successor.

This removal and thorough destruction of the former town accounts for the rarity of Roman remains near Kingston; but there are still sufficient evidences of its existence, both in the remains occasionally brought to light and in the writings of those who have recorded, unbiassed, the events occurring under other dynasties than those ruling at the time in which they wrote.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Much of the difficulty attending the investigation of early history arises from a desire, from which perhaps no historian is entirely free, to unduly honour either the subject in hand or the patron of the work: and from a tendency at the same time to

In this Saxon town, said to have been called Moreford, or the Great Ford or Passage, was one of the earliest Saxon christian churches, and it is affirmed that Moreford was the first Saxon town erected in the country.

The Danes, who speedily followed their neighbours the Saxons, and incessantly harrassed them in their newly acquired territory, so far interfered with the quiet of Moreford and its inhabitants, that after much damage had accrued to the bridge in consequence of repeated hard frosts at the end of the fifth and beginning of the sixth centuries, and when the town had been at length so entirely destroyed by the remorseless invaders that scarcely a vestige of it remained to tell where once it stood, it was again removed, and rebuilt on its present site. At this time a cathedral or mother church seems to have been established here, as it was for many subsequent ages denominated the "*Mater quinque Ecclesiarum*," its dependencies being *Richmond*, *Kew*, *Ditton*, and *Moulsey*. The town was henceforth called Chingestune.<sup>k</sup>

In one of their predatory incursions the Danes destroyed Winchester by fire, and the bishop removed, with his court, to Kingston, which became, during the continuance of the Saxon kingdom of England, the metropolis of the country, or rather the *Rheims* of England.

In the year 838 Egbert, the first king of England, convened an assembly of ecclesiastics and nobles to meet him in council at Kingston. And as this assembly may fairly be considered as the first step towards the establishment of our free constitution, in which all men who have a stake to lose in the country are represented in its government, the following record of a portion of the proceedings will be read with

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slight other topics and the heroes of other events not immediately connected with or interested in the author's labors. Hence the historian of Saxon times would ruthlessly destroy and consign to oblivion all remains of Roman art and domination; and the Normans, being more nearly allied to their Saxon predecessors would and did yet more inveterately oppose and destroy every thing that could remind a subdued nation of its former rulers. Those who endeavoured to extirpate a *language*, and who purposely removed the seat of empire, to prevent the association of themselves with any remains of Saxon glory, would not be very likely to transmit to posterity records of the honours of a place or dynasty they had overthrown.

<sup>k</sup> Some have asserted that Kingston derived its name from the coronation of several kings here (hence King's Town); others suppose it to have been so called from the stone on which the kings were crowned, as though the name were King's Stone: and, more recently an etymology has been sought for in the stone itself as the chief stone in some Druidical erection (the king stone). Whatever may have been the origin of the name, it is useless now to seek it: but it may not be out of place to express a wish that the townsmen may always deserve as well of royalty, for their unshaken fidelity and zeal, as they have always hitherto done: that so *they* at least may have just right to claim the honour of being, in a more exalted sense than houses and lands can be, a King's Town.

"A Saxonum ingressu, regium semper fuit Castrum, et sacri patrimonii pars."

interest. It is translated from a copy of the original record, preserved in the Cottonian M.S.S. (Claudius D. 11, F. 33.)

"In the year of our Lord's Incarnation 838, a council met in that famous place called Kingston, in which council presided Egbert the king, his son Athelwulf, his archbishop Ceolnothus, and the other English bishops and nobles, and among many matters then settled and decreed, the archbishop Ceolnoth declared before the whole council that the forenamed princes Egbert and his son Athelwulf had given to the church the manor called Mallings in Sussex, freed from all service and tribute to the king excepting these three,—military service and the erection of bridges and fortresses. King Baldred gave this land to the church. But because that king did not altogether please his nobles, they would not ratify the gift. Wherefore the aforementioned princes at the request of the forenamed archbishop Ceolnoth have confirmed the bequest.

If any one shall presume to violate this deed, let him be driven from the presence of God, and let his lot be with the devil and his angels."

About this time it appears that the bishops of Winchester made Kingston their principal place of abode: the church was converted into a temporary cathedral; a house upon the river's bank, on a spot still called Bishop's Hall, was occupied as the episcopal palace; and the bishops continued to reside here until towards the close of the Saxon dominion.

The Saxon kings after the union of the heptarchy, were generally crowned at Kingston; they appear to have lived here in considerable splendour; and, except when struggling with the arrogant and turbulent priesthood, enjoyed a quiet for which the place has ever been renowned.

Different authors have given varied lists of the sovereigns crowned here; but the evidence of the coronation of the following is too strong to be lightly laid aside.

	A.D.
EDWARD THE ELDER, crowned by Plegmund, arch- bishop of Canterbury.....	} 901
ATHELSTANE, crowned by Aldhelm .....	
	925

The coronation of Athelstane was celebrated with unusual magnificence. A stage was erected in the public square (now the Market-place) "that the king might be seen the better of the multitude," and the ceremony was performed in the presence of the assembled nobility and clergy.

	A.D.
EDMUND, crowned by Odo .....	941
EDRED. .... " " "	948
EDWY. .... " " "	955
EDGAR, crowned at Kingston in .....	958
and again at Bath 972.	
EDWARD THE MARTYR, crowned by Dunstan, } assisted by Oswald, archbishop of York. .... }	975

The coronation oath was first administered at this time, and in these words— "In the name of the Most Holy Trinity, I promise; First, that the Church of God and all Christian People shall enjoy true peace under my government; Secondly, that I will prohibit all manner of rapine and injustice to men of every condition; Thirdly, that in all judgments I will cause equity to be united with mercy, that the Most Clement God may, through his eternal mercy, forgive us all." Amen.

ETHELRED, crowned by Dunstan and Oswald ..... 978

EDMUND IRONSIDE. .... 1016

Edred, Edward the Martyr, and Ethelred, were crowned in a chapel dedicated to St. Mary, which formerly stood on the north side of the church, and in which were preserved their portraits as well as those of Athelstane, Edwin, and John to whom the town is indebted for its charter of incorporation. The remainder of the Saxon kings appear to have been crowned more publicly; upon an elevated platform temporarily erected for the occasion in the Market-place.

There are unfortunately but few existing memorials of these Saxon monarchs. Revenge, neglect, and modern improvements have swept away the few vestiges that Time in his course had left. The Saxon palace has disappeared—the underground passages connecting its different portions have been converted into an ignoble sewer—the town itself has gradually been moved up the river—the chapel of the coronations<sup>1</sup> has fallen and been utterly destroyed—the portraits are no more—and only a solitary stone is left, proudly to tell the tale of glory long since faded away;—the stone on which the monarchs sat during the ceremony of coronation has been preserved with almost religious veneration, and now occupies a conspicuous position at the entrance of the town from the south.

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<sup>1</sup> A representation of this chapel as it formerly stood to the north of the church, will be found under the initial in p. 1.

Another race of kings arose over England's soil and sons : and the founder of the new dynasty refused to accept a crown on the spot where his predecessors had received theirs. No link, even of local association, must connect him with the fallen chain of England's worthies ; he had seized a country and *its* crown he would not have ; he must forge a diadem for himself and place it upon his own head when and where he pleased. Henceforth then the royal town must seek its royalty in the nobility of its sons ; and history nobly tells how this honour has been achieved ; how, disdaining to be *less* than royal and to serve a meaner servitude, it has been, in time of need, a supporter of royalty, a friend of the monarch when he stood alone amidst his enemies.

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## CHAPTER II.

THE INTERNAL CONDITION OF KINGSTON SINCE THE NORMAN CONQUEST, ILLUSTRATED BY ITS VARIOUS CHARTERS, ETC. ETC.

The Norman conqueror caused a fair inventory of his new possession to be drawn up : in which the Vill of Kingston and its appurtenances are thus described.

"Rex tenet in dominio Chingestune. De firma regis Edwardi fuit. Tunc se defendebat pro 39 hidis, modo pro nichilo. Terra est 32 carrucaturum. In dominio sunt 2 carrucatae et 86 Villani,<sup>m</sup> and 14 Bordarii,<sup>n</sup> cum 25 carrucatis. Ibi ecclesia, et 2 servi, et 5 molini de 20 solidis, et 2 piscariae de 10 solidis, et tertia piscaria valde bona, sed sine censa. Ibi 40 acrae prati. Silva 6 porcis. Tempore regis Edwardi, et postea, et modo, valuit 30 libras."

"De Villanis hujus villae habuit et habet Humfridus camerarius unum villanum in custodia, causa coadunandi lanam reginæ. De ipso etiam accepit 20 solidos in relevamentum cum pater ejus fuit mortuus."

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<sup>m</sup> These were villans in demesne, or privileged villans : i. e. they could not be dispossessed of their tenures at the will of their lord, nor could they be *compelled* to retain them ; they were exempt from doing suit at county and hundred courts ; from contributing to the expenses of knights of the shire, and from being returned on inquests, assizes and juries. They might try their right of property in a court of their own, called a court of ancient demesne, and according to the custom of the manor.

<sup>n</sup> These were the lowest serfs, being a kind of domestic servants, attending on their lord's affairs, and dwelling in hovels on the estate.

The extent of Kingston, at the time of the survey was therefore 3900 acres; 3200 of which were arable, 40 meadow, and a small portion woodland; the remainder consisting of roads and buildings: the king farmed 200 acres; and 2500 were in the hands of his tenants at will; here were five corn mills, and three fisheries. The church also belonged to the manor.

The manor was worth £30, equal to about £1800 per annum at the present time. The mills were let for a sum equivalent to £60, and two of the three fisheries for £30; while the third fishery was reported as very good, though no value was put upon it, probably as being in the king's hands.

One Humfrid the chamberlain had the charge of collecting the queen's wool-money in this parish; and had under him one of the king's tenants as an assistant, who likewise paid a fine equal to £30 of our currency on the death of his father.

But besides the manor of Kingston there was a separate estate called the Soke of Kingston mentioned in the following terms.

*“Walterius tenet unum hominem de Soca de Chingestun; cui commendavit eques sylvaticas regis custodire, sed nescimus quomodo. Hic homo tenet 2 hidas, sed non habet rectum in ipsa terra. Pro 2 hidas se defendebat; modo pro nichilo. Ibi est in dominio 1 Carrucata, cum 3 Servis, and 1 piscaria de 125 anguillis; et 1 acra prati. Valet, et valuit semper, 30 solidos.”*

From this it appears that one Walter, who was the keeper of the king's forests in Berkshire, had a portion of the original manor of Kingston separated for the king's use under the style of the Soke of Kingston; that he had one tenant under him, who possessed no permanent interest in the land, but merely during pleasure farmed 100 acres of arable land and 1 acre of meadow, with a fishery, for which he paid a rent of 125 eels. The whole of this under tenancy was valued at £90 per annum of our money.

In another part of the survey it is mentioned that the abbey of Chertsey held 50 acres of land in Kingston—of which  $37\frac{1}{2}$  acres were arable and tilled by the aid of 7 oxen, and 2 acres were meadow. This was valued in Edward's time at £21, and at the time of the survey at £24 of our present money.

The town was very early incorporated; though the date of its incorporation is uncertain. The first charter granted to

the freemen of Kingston was that of John, which bears date Portcester, 26th April, 1199. By this charter he "granted to the freemen of Kingston that they should hold in their own hands the said Vill of Kingston with all its appurtenances, in fee-farm, of him and his heirs for ever; paying into the king's treasury, and not accounting to the sheriff for the same, £12 per annum over and above the fine before payable (stated to have been pure silver to the value of £28 10s., or £29 18s. 6d. current)." This charter is dated by the hands of Simon Fitz Robert archdeacon of Wells, and John de Grey archdeacon of Gloucester; and it is witnessed by William de St. Maria bishop elect of London, Godfrey de Lucy bishop of Winchester, G. Fitz Peter, and others. For this charter the freemen paid the sum of 60 marcs.

In the tenth year of his reign John granted, or perhaps rather, (driven to find resources where they were most easily to be obtained, and under the pretext of more clearly defining the privileges conferred) thrust on the freemen of his loyal town, at an additional charge of £100, a second charter, bearing date "Taunton, 23rd September, 1208." By this instrument "the Vill of Kingston, with all its appurtenances, was granted to the freemen thereof, to them and their heirs, to hold of the king and his heirs, in fee-farm for ever; with all the liberties and free customs which the said town was used to and ought to have, while it was in the king's own hands; paying into the treasury the yearly sum of £50 of silver, one-half at Easter, and the other half at Michaelmas; £28 10s. thereof to be paid in sterling silver and the rest in the currency of the realm; to have and to hold the said Vill with its appurtenances, of the king and his heirs, as long as they should well and truly pay the said rent. And the sheriff and his bailiff were forbidden in any way to interfere in the said town, or with the manorial rights thereof." This charter which is a beautiful specimen of penmanship, is in the possession of the corporation, and is in an excellent state of preservation. It was dated by the hands of Hugh de Wells archdeacon of Wells,\* and witnessed by Peter de Rupibus bishop of Winchester, Joceline de Wells bishop of Bath and Wells, William de Ridvers earl of Devon, William Briwere, and others.

The town of Kingston had before these charters been charged with a rent as tenants of the crown: but, by these charters, the farming of the rents was placed in their own

hands, on the yearly payment of a somewhat increased sum ; so that, with skilful management, they might have made some profit on the transaction ; but it is very evident that considerable difficulty was experienced in the payment of £50 annually to the crown ; for in 1226 a writ was issued to the sheriff authorizing him to seize the Vill into the king's hands for non-payment of a small balance due to the exchequer. And again in 1251 a balance of 10 marcs was outstanding against the freemen ; and the sheriff was ordered to seize the Vill if it was not paid by the bailiffs on or before the next Ash-wednesday.

Five years afterwards ; that is, in 1256, Henry III, by a charter dated at Westminster, 10th September in that year, " granted to the freemen of this place, and their heirs throughout the realm, freedom from arrest of their persons or goods on account of any debt for which they were not securities or principal debtors ; unless those debtors were of their own community and jurisdiction, having wherewith to pay, in whole or in part, and the said freemen were wanting in justice to their creditors as far as their means allowed, and of their lack of honesty reasonable proof could be given. And a penalty of £10 could be levied on any person who should in any way unjustly vex, disturb, or disquiet the said freemen against the liberty aforesaid." This charter was witnessed by Guy Lezinnan, Geffery Lezinnan, and William de Valence, the king's half brothers, John Mannsell provost of Beverley, Archibald de St. Romano, Walter de Merton, Wm. de Grey, and others.

On the 12th of the same month, the king granted, by another charter, attested by the same parties as the former " to the freemen of Kingston—a fair, to be holden yearly and to continue eight days ; that is, on the morrow of All Souls and during the seven days following ; unless such fair should be injurious to other neighbouring fairs ;—with all the liberties and free customs belonging to such fair."

On the following day, September 13, 1256, Henry gave another and more valuable charter to his freemen of Kingston, by which they had granted. 1.—" The return of writs of summons from the exchequer, and of all other writs touching their town, so that no sheriff or other servant of the crown shall enter the town for the purpose of making distresses or summonses, unless through the default of the townsmen. 2.—The power to elect and create from their own body



coroners for making attachments on pleas of the crown arising within the town, and to give account to the justices itinerant in those parts of all matters pertaining to their office. 3.—That they should not be impleaded or compelled to plead out of their own town, except by virtue of a special writ to that effect, in respect of any of their tenements or effects within the town, or in respect of any plea except that of trespass against the crown. 4.—To hold their guild merchant, as they had formerly enjoyed the privilege, and as the men of Guildford held theirs, as well as all other liberties and just laws and customs which they have in their town and as they have enjoyed and used them in the king's time and in that of his predecessors. 5.—That they should not lose their goods or chattels found in the hands of their servants, or elsewhere deposited by those servants, for any trespass or fine imposed upon the said servants, if they could prove the goods to be theirs. 6.—That if they or their heirs should die testate or intestate within the realm, their goods should not be confiscated; but pass entire into the hands of their heirs, on proof produced that the goods were lawfully theirs, and that the persons claiming to be heirs were really and truly such. And 7.—That none should presume to vex, molest, or disquiet them, against such privileges, under a penalty of £10." This charter, by which the prescriptive and ancient incorporation of the town is sufficiently attested, was signed and witnessed by the same parties who attested the two former, with one or two slight exceptions: and was confirmed by Edward III; Richard II; Henry IV; Henry V; and Edward IV.

Edward III, by precept directed to the sheriff, and dated Westminster, June 1, 1351, directed that the fair held on Thursday in Witsun-week, should thenceforth be continued for eight days; and he ordered Proclamation to that effect to be made in all proper places within his bailiwick.

Richard II, in the fourth year of his reign, by letters patent, dated "Westminster, May 20, 1381," granted to the freemen of Kingston, in aid of the payment of their fee-farm, amounting then to £54 8s. 6d., without any charge upon the same grant, a shop and eight acres of land, with their appurtenances (afterwards the stock house and public prison) which had escheated to the king on the death of Robert Heggeman (one of the king's tenants) who had died childless and intestate.

In the eighth year of Henry IV, the bailiffs were cited to appear before the court of chancery, for refusing to pay a portion of the expenses of the knights of the shire, which had been levied on the town; and on the 1st of March in that year it was decided that the freemen of Kingston could not be compelled or called on to pay any portion of such knight's fees.

Henry V, by a charter dated from Westminster, November 21, 1413, as well as by another dated March 1, 1421, confirmed all the previous charters, and granted further to the freemen of Kingston "a continuance of all such privileges on payment to him and his heirs yearly, half at Easter and half at Michaelmas, of £26 only of the £50 which they had formerly paid for the fee-farm of the town, and released them from the remaining £24 per annum."



Corporate Seal of Kingston.

By a charter of March 18, 1441, Henry VI, granted to the freemen of Kingston the style and title of "The bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston-upon-Thames," he gave them permission to purchase lands and tenements; granted them a common seal; and gave up to them all fines, fees, &c. arising from the excise of bread and ale, as well as from the markets held there.

In February 1480-1, in consequence of the impoverished condition of the place, caused by the annual rent it was compelled to pay, the destructive effects of inundation to which it was subject, as well as divers other burthens and calamities to which it had been exposed, Edward IV confirmed and more fully explained some former charters; and reciting one of John by which the town was entitled to a separate court on every Saturday, added "authority to make bye laws and constitutions for the good government of the town," he also granted the freemen, within the town, liberty, demesne, and hundred, and within the hundred of Emelebridge and its members, all escheats, treasure trove, deodands, and all goods, &c. found or stolen; the goods of all felons, fugitives, suicides, &c. &c. as well as all fines and ransoms.

The powers of the court, held weekly before the bailiffs and stewards, were defined: serjeants at mace, to execute the orders of the bailiffs, were allowed: and exemption from all interference on the part of the king's escheators, stewards, marshals or clerks of markets, was further confirmed. This charter was confirmed by others bearing dates, 10th July A° 9 Henry VII; 12 March, 1st Henry VIII; 24 April, 1st Edward VI; 25 March, 2nd and 3rd of Philip and Mary; 7 May, 1st Elizabeth; and 17 November, 1st James I.

Henry VIII, by a charter dated from Greenwich, 28th December, 1541, allowed the corporation a deduction of £10 19s. 6d. from their fee-farm, on account of certain estates at that time vested in the crown and annexed to the honor of Hampton-court. The quit rent of the town was thus reduced to £15 7s. 2d.; (at least it was so stated; as being £10 19s. 6d. deducted from £26 6s. 8d.)

The quit rents of the town were now paid to the court of augmentations as receivers for the honor of Hampton-court—and a further charge of £1 8s. 6d. was made upon the impoverished town for the trouble they gave the court in passing their accounts.

In the 2nd and 3rd year of Philip and Mary, by a charter dated 25 March, 1556, all former charters were confirmed and another fair granted, to be held the day after the feast of St. Mary Magdalen: and on account of the daily expenses of the great bridge which was in great ruin and decay, as well in consideration of other great burdens by the towsmen sustained, they were authorized to make a fish wear in the Thames near the town, with 80 perches of water, free of all rent or other payment, provided only that they preserved the free navigation of the river and caused no inconvenience to the passage of barges thereon.

This was confirmed by a charter of Elizabeth, dated May 7, 1559.

In confirmation of the rights of the freemen of Kingston as tenants in ancient demesne, Elizabeth, by precept directed to all sheriffs, &c., bearing date August 5, 1592, ordered that the men and tenants of the lordships of Kingston and Emelebridge should be exempt from contributing to the expenses of knights of the shire, from serving on juries not necessarily connected with the town's affairs, and from payment of tolls on their goods throughout the realm.

James I, in his charter, dated at Winchester, November

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17, 1603, introduces Kingston as a *very* ancient and *populous* town; and after making honorable mention of "the good and laudable services hitherto often done to and bestowed upon" him and his progenitors "by the bailiffs and freemen of the town" ratifies former charters and grants farther; 1.—That the bailiffs, high steward and recorder shall be justices of the peace within the town, its precincts and liberties, and within the villages or hamlets of Surbiton, Ham and Hatch; with power in them, or any three of them, the bailiffs being two, to inquire, hear, and determine, on all felonies, murders, homicides, robberies, &c., with this limitation only, that they shall not punish by death without special licence from the king. 2.—Permission to have one prison or gaol within the town, the bailiffs or their deputy or deputies being the keeper or keepers. 3.—That they may have a weekly market on Saturday, for the sale of all kinds of animals and live cattle, and that they may receive and appropriate the tolls thereof. 4.—Power to receive and collect all fines, &c. levied within the town whether by justices, judges, &c. (either of assize, gaol delivery, justices of the peace, &c.) on tenants either within the town, demesne, or hundred.

The charter of 13th December, 4 Charles I. is the most exact in its definition of the powers and privileges granted to the town, and as it is one of the latest, and certainly the most comprehensive, may be given at greater length than any preceding. It confirms former charters and ordains 1.—That the freemen be elected out of the free tenants of the manor, in number such as from time to time shall be necessary: and that those persons who, having been so elected, shall refuse to serve, shall pay a reasonable fine for the use of the town. 2.—That two of the freemen, elected according to ancient custom shall be called bailiffs of the town. 3.—That the bailiffs shall be clerks of the market within the town and liberty, and within the hundreds of Kingston and Emelebridge and their precincts. 4.—That two other freemen, chosen from time to time, shall be, and be called coroners of the king within the town and the hundreds and liberties aforesaid, to exercise their offices either jointly or severally. 5.—That the attorney general of the king be the steward of the court of the town. 6.—That a person elected by the freemen, and skilled in the law, shall be and be called the recorder of the said town. 7.—That the bailiffs elect shall before admission to office take their corporal oaths before the bailiffs, the steward and

the recorder for the time being or any three or two of them, in open court, for the good and faithful execution of their office. 8.—That the coroners elect shall take their oaths before the newly elected bailiffs, &c. in open court, &c. 9.—That the recorder shall, in open court, take his oath before admission. 10.—That the town shall have not more than four serjeants at mace, but a sufficient number to execute the office within the town, its liberties and precincts, and in the hundreds of Kingston, Emelebridge, Copthorn, and Effingham. 11.—That the bailiffs may appoint under bailiffs for the execution of the bailiffs' precepts, &c. 12.—That the serjeants at mace carry each a mace of silver, with the royal arms and the arms of the town engraved or wrought thereon, before the bailiffs, every where within the town, the bounds, precincts and liberties thereof. 13.—That such officers as the bailiffs have been used to, be continued. 14.—That the serjeants at mace take oath before admission. 15.—That the Saturday court be held before the bailiffs, steward and recorder, or any three or two of them; and that the bailiffs have cognizance of all pleas, &c. touching all persons within the town and hundreds before-mentioned. 16.—That the bailiffs for the time being and for one year after, the steward and the recorder, be justices of the peace within the town and hundreds before-mentioned (excepting only Richmond, in which is the king's palace.) 17.—That the town may have a prison for the confinement of offenders within the hundreds mentioned before. 18.—(A mere repetition of the 7th head). 19.—That there be no other market held within seven miles of Kingston. 20.—That the bailiffs and freemen have the return and execution of all writs, &c. within the afore-named hundreds. 21.—That the freemen may purchase for themselves and their successors, manors, messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, woods, underwood, rectories, tythes, rents, reversions, &c. not held of the king in chief, or by knight's service; and so that the value of such manors, &c. do not exceed the yearly sum of £100. 22.—That the court leet and view of frankpledge of the bailiffs, &c. shall not extend to the manor of Richmond or the hamlets of Richmond, Kew, Petersham or Ham; but that they shall enjoy all such rights within all other parts of the hundreds, &c.



Seal of the Court of Record.

Charles II, in the fourteenth year of his reign, granted a Wednesday's market, with its tolls and privileges.

In consequence of an act passed in the thirteenth year of Charles II, the corporation twenty-three years afterwards surrendered all their charters, customs, and privileges into the king's hands, and begged his majesty to accept the surrender and to regrant the freemen such other liberties and franchises as he should consider conducive to their good government.

Charles died shortly after, and the town made a similar surrender to his successor, James, who, in August, 1685, renewed their charter, incorporating the freemen under the title of mayor, aldermen and burgesses, with the following officers: viz, one mayor, twelve aldermen, recorder, high steward, steward, sixteen common councilmen, one town clerk, two coroners, a cryer, four attorneys, four serjeants at mace, two chief constables, four petty constables, and four head-boroughs. These officers were nominated by the crown; and within the next three years several changes were made by writ of privy seal; but in 1688 the new constitution was annulled, and all the ancient charters and privileges were restored.

Of the condition of the town, the prosperity of its people, its progress or decay, little can be gathered from the annals of our country, in which it played but an inconspicuous part from the invasion of the Normans till the days of the Stuarts. The only materials for its history being the charters which have just been mentioned, and a few incidental notes scattered here and there in more comprehensive histories like wild flowers in a princely garden, suffered or unheeded.

On the marriage of Matilda, daughter of Henry II, to Henry, duke of Saxony, in the year 1168, a tax was levied on the king's demesnes, for the purpose of supplying the princess's dowry; and the sum charged upon Kingston was £12 10s., in addition to £2 3s. 4d. assessed upon Ham, as an appurtenance of the manor. This sum was nearly equal to that assessed upon Southwark, and considerably larger than the amount raised at Guildford (viz. £9 6s. 8d.) though, at the time of the conquest that town was charged with a rent larger than that of Kingston by £2.

In the tenth year of Richard I, A.D. 1198, the freemen paid £11 13s. 4d. as their proportion of a tallage levied upon the county.

It is well-known that John had a place of residence<sup>o</sup> in this town: which may in a great degree account for the favor he shewed the inhabitants in granting them a written charter of incorporation with divers other privileges. And it appears from several circumstances mentioned below, that the place continued to be a royal residence for many years.

On the 15th June, 1212, John, by a precept issued to the tenants of his manor of Kingston, required them to provide *ten* men of the better sort within the vill, with horses and arms, to be ready to go beyond the sea on the king's service, whensoever he should call them out. (Guildford's contingent was 20.)

In 1226 the tenants of the manor stood charged with the sum of £3 12s. as carucage, which was a charge of so much per hundred acres payable to the king as lord of the manor for ploughed land held by inferior tenure. And as, in the course of the next year, an order was issued for the seizure of the town into the king's hands for a debt due to his exchequer, it is probable that this carucage was not readily paid.

In 1263, during the civil wars raging between Henry III and his barons, the castle fell into the hands of the insurgents,

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<sup>o</sup> Portions of a farm attached to this residence are still in existence at Town's-end; and though much modernized and almost rebuilt, the houses on the spot are known as King John's Dairy. Little more than the foundations and a small portion of the brick-work can be supposed to date so far back as John's reign: the floors of Spanish chesnut are certainly of a much later period, though very old. On occasion of alterations made a few years since on the portion of these premises now occupied by a carpenter of the name of Whitfield, a large solid beam of Spanish chesnut was uncovered, one end of which was charred as if it had been inserted in the capacious chimney. On a part of this beam the date 1201 was cut: whence it is only fair to conclude that the mansion of which this beam

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formed a part was erected in the second year of king John. Several coins of early date, especially of the reign of Edward III have also been found in good preservation on or near this spot.

This portion of the royal palace, if we may so deem the building, has become noted in more modern times as the place in which the celebrated George Fox the founder and first preacher of the Quakers, or Society of Friends, promulgated his doctrines, in the year 1650. George Fox was a native of Drayton in Leicestershire, and, in early life followed the occupation of a shoemaker at Nottingham, till, feeling called upon to expose the immorality of his time and to teach what he considered a purer system of ethics and of morals than he knew to exist around him, he left his awl and starting on a new career earned honours and a lasting name as the founder of a sect every where spoken against though numbering amongst its friends some of the wealthiest and most moral of men.

The opinion, long current, that a house in the Market-place, lately occupied as the Castle Inn was a part of John's palace, cannot be supported, and the balusters of the staircase, though sufficiently ancient and curious to merit some attention, bear evident marks of a much more recent origin. The house is, by some, thought to stand on the site of the Saxon castle, but recent discoveries have thrown strong doubts on the subject, and would seem to place *that* structure on a different spot. (See further notice subsequently.) That the present staircase is not so ancient as has been supposed is sufficiently proved by the character of the carvings rudely executed upon the balustrade: they are quite *rustic* enough for the work of our Saxon ancestors; but the *armorial* *fun*, the grapes, and the Bacchus, bespeak an era at least subsequent to the grant of incorporation.

who, having captured prince Edward, detained him there a prisoner, under the charge of Simon de Montford, earl of Leicester.

In the following year Henry took advantage of the temporary absence of the earl, to march upon London; but Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, united his forces with those of the earl of Leicester, and vigourously pushing forward to oppose the king's progress, effectually prevented his success. The king therefore fell back upon Kingston, and with very little difficulty became master of the castle: the inhabitants being much more willing to aid their sovereign than to support rebellion.

The Kingstonians of those days were addicted to athletic sports of many kinds, especially at or about Easter; and then, as now, they seem to have taken a leading part in the sports of the time; for Edward I, in 1274, issued a precept directed to Pagan de Cadurcis his general, forbidding the holding of tournaments, jousts, or other military sports at Kingston or elsewhere within the realm, on Thursday next after the octaves of Easter, or at any other time, without his special license, under penalty of the forfeiture of the lands or tenements of the offenders.

In the latter part of Edward's reign, on his marriage with Margaret of France, the fee-farm of the town, together with that of Combe, was assigned to the queen as part of her dower.

In 1304, when Edward II, levied a tallage upon his demesnes in Surrey, the tenants of the manor of Kingston were allowed to compound for the same by the payment of a fine of £20; and they obtained their discharge on the sheriff becoming responsible for the payment.

Ten years later, Edward purposing to march an army into Scotland for the subjugation of that kingdom, the freemen of this town voluntarily, and at their own expense, furnished him with four men armed, with jackets, habergeons, coats of skin, and iron gauntlets, for his service there; and, that such free gift on their part should not become an after disadvantage to his loyal people of Kingston, he granted them letters patent, declaring that such should not be construed into a precedent to their future charge and inconvenience.

The town was represented in five parliaments, from 1310 to 1372, viz: in that of

4 Edward II, by Adam le Templar and Jno. de Cruce,

5 Edward II, by Roger de Cauterer and Jno. Tuill,



6 Edward II, by John Toley and John at Crouch,

26 Edward III,

47 Edward III, by Hugh Tanner and John Havering,

but, though it was usual for boroughs to pay the expenses of their representatives, nothing appears to have been paid by the freemen of Kingston, who claimed exemption from the charge as tenants in ancient demesne. And, as it is probable that these representatives were returned by the sheriff, in the exercise of his usual power in those days, without any particular reference to the will of the townsmen, their non-payment of the representatives and the consequent inconvenience resulting to the sheriff was a sufficient reason for the discontinuance of a practice apparently so lightly regarded by the town. For though an attempt has been frequently made to cast ridicule upon the townsmen for their having prayed to be relieved from the *burden* of sending representatives to parliament, no record of such petition has been found, no payment appears ever to have been made for knight's fees, and therefore it may fairly be presumed that such was not the case. Indeed it would be fully as well to compliment the town on its discretion in not adding to the difficulties of government by overstocking the house with members as to cast a slur on its intellectual state on account of an apparent disregard of a useless privilege.

In the year 1407, Henry IV levied on the town 4 marcs towards defraying the expenses of the knights of the shire. The bailiffs refused to pay this sum on the plea that it had never been customary to levy any sums for that purpose within the liberties of the town: and they were consequently cited to appear before the court to answer the accusation of the sheriff of the county; when they proved their title to exemption; and from this time no further trouble seems to have been taken to compel the unwilling burghers to intermeddle with state affairs.

On the 1st of October, 1467, Edward IV held a council at Kingston, where he was attended by the chief of the nobility with the exception of Richard Neville earl of Warwick<sup>p</sup> who was then raising the standard of revolt in the North.

<sup>p</sup> Warwick's absence from this council was especially disloyal, as one of his own strongholds was situated in the street now called Heathen-street near the angle where it runs into the London-road. This situation was admirably selected, as the fortress thus stood on the outskirts of the town and commanded the approach from London; and the open fields in front, now the Fair-field and Weston-park (thought to be an abbreviation of Whetstone-park), afforded an excellent tourney ground for the earl's retainers.

On the death of the earl mentioned above the estate came into the hands of one

At this council the marriage of the king's sister Margaret with Charles, duke of Burgundy, was definitively agreed upon.

In 1554, when Mary's proposed marriage with Philip of Spain so exasperated her protestant subjects (but recently liberated from popish thraldom) as to excite them to open rebellion under sir T. Wyatt, the insurgents, bent on compelling the queen to relinquish the proposed match marched through Southwark and would have crossed the Thames by London bridge; but being driven back from that approach they proceeded at once to Kingston where was the only other bridge across the Thames, to make the passage of the river there. The inhabitants had previously, by the queen's instructions, partially destroyed about thirty feet of the bridge, hoping to render Wyatt's passage impracticable, and, further to intimidate him, the opposite bank was guarded by two hundred men. Wyatt, however, by the aid of two pieces of

Hircombe who appears to have demolished the greater part of the castle and substituted for it a substantial brick mansion, on the site of which, at a more recent date sir John Vanburgh erected one of the largest and handsomest residences in the neighbourhood, which was demolished between sixty and seventy years since, as too antiquated for use and too dilapidated for repair and the house now occupied by Mr. Bartrop was built in its stead by a Mr. Tothill, purser on board H. M. S. Lion.

On the death of Mr. Luxmore, who occupied the house a few years since, the grounds were divided and sold in portions for building purposes; and, in digging the foundations of a house near where the old castle is supposed to have stood the workmen met with underground passages of no ordinary dimensions running nearly parallel with the road, and therefore probably part of a series of which portions are known to exist extending towards the site of John's dairy, mentioned in a former paragraph. These vaults were unfortunately converted into cess-pools without sufficient examination, and thus an opportunity of removing much of the uncertainty existing respecting the site and extent of the Saxon and early Norman palaces has been almost irretrievably lost. Within the memory of an aged person now living, a portion of a tower of five stories, not unreasonably supposed to have formed a prominent part of the Warwick castle was still standing and used as a dwelling house. The stories had no internal communication but were approached by flights of steps on the outside. A pillar remaining entire in the middle of the building was probably the axis of a spiral staircase. This tower stood nearly opposite Bridewell alley.

In digging the foundation of the Assize courts, which occupy a portion of the supposed royal domain, one of the workmen discovered a silver gilt ring of which the annexed cut is a good representation. This ring, which bears almost indubitable evidence of having been the signet ring of a Warwick, was purchased by Mr. Wade of Teddington and by him given to Mr. S. Ranyard, in whose possession it now is. The fillet round the head denotes a period posterior to that of the holy wars, and the style of the ring corresponds with that of the period in which the Warwicks figured so conspicuously.



Signet on Ring; enlarged.

ordnance, quickly dislodged his opponents and having obtained possession of some barges then lying in the river rudely repaired the venerable bridge with planks, ropes and ladders, and so made good a passage for his troops. It was in consequence of the damage sustained by the town at this time that Mary on her marriage granted the town the privilege of making and repairing a third fish wear; and, unlike former charters, this was specially exempted from expenses in the shape of fines and fees.

During the remainder of Mary's reign Kingston was in a state of quiet, and while every other neighbourhood was a witness to the malevolence of bigotted intolerance, the victims of persecution found here, as on some sacred ground, a sanctuary.

From an entry in the parish register, dated October 9, 1570, it appears that there fell so great and sudden a rain on the preceding Sunday night as to flood a great part of the town.<sup>a</sup>

Queen Elizabeth, though frequently passing through the town, seldom took up her abode there. She however dined in state at Kingston in 1597.

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### CHAPTER III.

#### KINGSTON DURING THE CIVIL WAR.

We now arrive at a period in our history which gives a lustre to the loyal town of Kingston that no after circumstance can destroy: dimmed it may be by untoward circumstances and clouded by adversity; but Kingston can never be robbed of *this honour*, that it took the lead in the support of the unfortunate Charles, who, for his attachment to the established church, and for his unwearied endeavours to promote his people's good and the welfare of the state, was hunted as a madman, and persecuted by men of other senti-

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<sup>a</sup> This circumstance is in itself of little consequence; but, since it is said that on that occasion "they might row boats out of the Thames a great way into the Market-place" the entry becomes interesting as an evidence of the improvements that have taken place in the town, which must since that time have been materially bettered by the embankment of the river's brink and the raising of the whole river side of the town to the level of the Market-place. Were a flood now to occur sufficiently high to allow of boating in the Market-place, the whole town would be under water.

ments, driven to seek protection for himself and the laws of England, in *arms*, and finally *martyred* for his conscience' sake and for his ecclesiastical opinions, rather than for any *imagined* ill his enemies could, with the most inveterate hatred and deadly malice, lay to his charge at a self erected tribunal where *all* laws, human and divine, were set at defiance, and all the feelings of humanity blotted out and forgotten by regicides and traitors to their country.

Leaving, however, the discussion of the rights of the case with those who prefer the jargon of discussion to the sober facts of history—the narrative of proceedings at Kingston, drawn from Rushworth and others who wrote at the period of these ungodly contentions, is as follows:—

The parliament, having, in defiance of the king's authority, appealed to arms in support of their pretensions against the monarch, formed magazines of arms and ammunition in most of the large towns in the kingdom; and the depôt for Surrey and Middlesex was placed at Kingston; and, as the disposition of the townsmen was rather favorable to Charles than to the parliament, the latter sent spies into the town to report on the proceedings of the inhabitants or on any events occurring in the neighbourhood likely to interest the ringleaders in revolt.

Early in 1641, the king, accompanied by a number of faithful adherents, retreated from his unruly parliament at Westminster, intending to remain quietly at Hampton-court till his troubles had blown over; but, as the palace which was then a comparatively small building, afforded but scanty accommodation for royalty and its dependencies, some of the patriot band withdrew to Kingston where they met with a most cordial reception. A few days afterwards the king himself visited the town, and was met there by some of his most attached friends, who seem to have made a little more display of their loyalty than was altogether palatable to the spies of the parliamentarians, for, in the supremacy of their alarm the latter despatched information to the house "that the lord Digby with colonel Lunsford and other disbanded officers and *reformadoes* have with troops of horse appeared in a warlike manner at Kingston in Surrey, where the magazine of arms lies, to the terror of his majesty's subjects."

A committee was immediately appointed to enquire into the facts, and their report was "that there were about two hundred or three hundred men there that are officers, and that the town is full of horses; that they have pistols and carry

themselves in a disorderly manner to the terror of the people ; that my lord Digby was there on horseback with pistols ; that colonel Lunsford and two others of that name were also there ; and that there was two cart loads of ammunition going to them."

About the same time "some great saddles that were to be sent to Kingston" were seized by the parliamentary forces.

In consequence of these proceedings the sheriff and justices of the peace were ordered "to suppress the gathering with the trained bands, and to secure the magazines." Lord Digby escaped beyond the sea for a time ; but colonel Lunsford was taken and imprisoned in the tower, of which he had, but a fortnight before, been the governor. The parliament also sent troops of horse to Kingston to hold the place as an outpost, and placed a number of boats on the river to give intelligence of the approach of any armed force towards the city of London.

From this time the town was occupied alternately by the royalists and the rebels: the former meeting with deserved kindness, and the latter with every mark of dislike.

During the summer of 1642, the king worsted the parliamentary forces in many engagements, and in November pushed on towards London, resolved, if possible, to put an end to all contention. On the 12th November Charles had advanced to Brentford, where he found himself completely surrounded and enclosed by the traitors' forces, who occupied posts on all the roads in his vicinity.

Among the towns occupied at this time by the rebels, was Kingston, where three thousand horse and foot, under Essex, were stationed to guard the passage of the bridge and prevent the king's receiving any assistance from the townsfolk. Had not a most unaccountable timidity at this time seized the leaders of the parliamentary forces, the unfortunate Charles must have fallen a victim to their hatred; but as they feared to engage with him, even with three times his strength, the three thousand were withdrawn from Kingston and Charles quickly informed by the townsmen, left Brentford, and with the assistance of his "faithful men of Kingston" marched away with his carriages, ammunition and ordnance, first to Oatlands, and then to Reading, not however, without leaving a detachment in possession of the bridge, to prevent his being overtaken.<sup>r</sup>

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<sup>r</sup> This precaution proved to be unnecessary, as the soldiers under Essex and other parliamentary leaders refused to follow, and the citizens quietly returned home.

Previously to the occupation of the town by the parliamentary forces, we are told that "Sir Richard Onslow, one of the knights of the shire, went with the trained bands of Southwark to defend the town (of Kingston); but the inhabitants thereof, shewing themselves extremely malignant against them would afford them no entertainment, calling them roundheads, and wished rather that the cavaliers would come among them, whereupon they left them to their malignant humours."!!

"A few days after twenty troops of horse were sent to Kingston to secure it to the forces of the parliament, till the earl of Warwick should come with the rest of the army."

The leaders of the anti-monarchical party, well aware of the importance of a post which afforded the only passage over the river above London, kept possession of Kingston, till, on the secession of the army and the formation of a third party, they were compelled to yield it to the superior force of that power which, having been seized by them for their own unlawful ends, now endeavoured to establish itself as a Military Tyranny independent of either of the Three Estates.

In August, 1647, therefore, Kingston became the head quarters of the army under Fairfax, and the seat of the *council of war* assembled, as Rushworth informs us, to consult on "the speedy settlement of the peace of the kingdom."

August 15, "his excellency sir Thomas Fairfax hath his head quarters still at Kingston: the face of things looks gallantly towards a settled peace. The king drew on towards Kingston, being very merry and pleasant."

August 16, Mr. Anthony Nicholls, one of the impeached members, who had a pass from the speaker to go into Cornwall . . . . . (but who could not obtain Fairfax's leave!) . . . was stopped by some troopers of the army and brought prisoner to Kingston.

August 17, the council of war decreed that the members sitting at Westminster were not a parliament; and voted null all proceedings from July 26 to August 6.

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\* This council assumed an authority superior both to the monarch and the parliament. Petitions poured into the camp, and edicts were dispatched from it, as if it were the only court of equity in the kingdom.

Amongst the petitions presented at this time, was one from the company of Brewers in the city of London, praying to be exempted from the payment of excise on beer and ale. This is mentioned merely as characteristic of every revolution, wherein each party is stimulated by selfish motives and struggles for relief from its due share of public burden.

One edict published by the army will suffice to shew the authority claimed by the council of war whilst stationed at Kingston, and also to illustrate the miserable condition of a town in which that tyrannical power had its head quarters.

"Whereas there are great complaints of diverse inhabitants in several parishes where

Mr. Nicholls and colonel Ellis Leighton, who also was taken into custody at Kingston, upon information that he had assisted to raise royalist forces "to engage the kingdom in a new war," were brought before the general to be tried by court martial. (Nicholls made his escape on the 24th.)

On the 24th, the king went to Hampton-court, followed by so numerous a company of well-wishers, that in four days Fairfax found it expedient to leave a town in which he had few friends and where he was "too much pressed and crowded by the great resort of people" who testified in no very measured terms their respect for majesty and dislike of the army.

Towards the end of October, after the battle of Edgehill, prince Rupert, failing in his attempt on Windsor, marched towards Kingston; but when about half way between Oatlands and the town, he unexpectedly fell in with a detachment of the army under Essex (then at Kingston) and the trained bands of Surrey and Berkshire. "They met in a lane forty feet wide, with a hedge on each side." A sharp fight ensued, in which the parliamentarians were nearly overpowered by the impetuous onset of Rupert; but stratagem effected that, which nought else could accomplish, the parliamentarians, leaving parties in ambush behind the hedges, feigned a precipitate retreat: this scheme was too successful, for the royalists, eagerly following their flying foes, found themselves suddenly and completely surrounded by an infuriated body of men, maddened by partial defeat; through these Rupert was compelled to cut his way and marched off, leaving three hundred dead on the road.

In the early part of the next year, the earl of Holland,<sup>†</sup> the duke of Buckingham, and his brother, lord Francis Villiers, joined in an attempt to release the king from his imprisonment in the Isle of Wight, and to restore him to his throne and kingdom, as the only means of restoring peace and preserving the constitution or its laws.

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the army is quartered, of their being overburdened with soldiers, by reason of several persons of estate, who have protections to be freed from quarter, having no soldiers put upon them, whilst the soldiers assigned to quarter in those parishes, put the rest of the poorer sort of inhabitants to great inconveniences, and the richer sort to go free and unburdened, it is therefore ordered *by the council of war*, for prevention of the like complaints and inconveniences for the future, that his excellency be moved, that all protections for exemption from quarter be recalled: and that those persons who had the same granted to them do notwithstanding have their share in the quartering, yet nevertheless shall have their houses free from the quartering of private soldiers, provided they take care to provide quarter elsewhere for the proportion of soldiers who justly ought to be assigned to them, and all officers in the army are required to take notice of this order."

By the appointment of his excellency sir Thomas Fairfax, and the council of war.  
Kingston, August 11, 1647.

JNO. RUSHWORTH, Secy.

<sup>†</sup> Lord high steward of Kingston.

They issued a declaration complaining of the unconstitutional proceedings of the parliament in raising and maintaining an army by means of the funds in the king's treasury, which the Parliament had appropriated for the purpose of dethroning the rightful owner of the crown, and of destroying monarchy.

They likewise declared their intention of raising and supporting an opposing force for the restoration of the king's lawful rights and prerogatives.

In pursuance of their plans, these three noblemen appointed Kingston the rendezvous of their forces; and might have seriously interfered with the proceedings of the anti-monarchical party, had they not acted too openly and thus drawn down upon themselves a vigilant and active enemy before their plans were matured.

Colonel Livesey, having been sent to subdue and quiet this royalist party, followed a small body of fugitives from Reigate, where they had assembled a few days previously with the intention of joining the main body before making a demonstration, but had been somewhat disturbed, to Ewell, and then to Surbiton-hill, on their road to the head quarters at Kingston. On the side of the hill facing Nonsuch and Ewell, the royalists taking advantage of their position on a rising ground, and having received reinforcements from the town, made a dead stand, and faced about, waiting the arrival of their pursuers. The colonel, perceiving the advantage of situation to be on the side of his adversaries, and unwilling to make any further advance upon them in so strong a position, held back his forces, intending to wait for reinforcements. Several persons, however, of each party unwilling to brook delay, began to try their skill in single combat, urged on by their friends, and lastly supported by them. The eagerness to engage gradually increased till the two parties were finally involved in a pitched battle. The royalists, who had the advantage at the commencement of the strife, were finally worsted; but contrived to make good their retreat to Kingston. This retreat was effected in good order; the cavalry covering the infantry and withdrawing slowly after them, till Livesey, overtaken by night, or dreading to enter the royalist town, gave up the chase.

Lord Francis Villiers, brother of the duke of Buckingham, who was active on the part of the royalist forces, was unhorsed during the engagement, and, standing with his



back against an elm tree on the east side of the lane "fought most valliantly with half a dozen," till, "the enemy coming behind him, pushed off his helmet and so killed him."<sup>u</sup>

During the night the royalist forces left the town, which was quietly entered by the surprised and mortified Livesey the next morning.

Thus ended an ill-contrived and worse executed scheme for the release of the unfortunate Charles, whose armorial bearings were soon after ordered to be erased and removed from both the church and town-hall.

It thus appears that at Kingston the royalists made their *first demonstration* and their *last struggle* on behalf of legitimacy against the upstart hydra democracy; and though the royal party for this time suffered defeat, and the exertions of our town were apparently thrown away, the prestige of a good or noble act is never lost; and Kingston has fairly won its laurels and is entitled to wear them as a RIGHT ROYAL TOWN. May she never lose the proud distinction!

## CHAPTER IV.

### FROM THE RESTORATION TO THE PRESENT TIME.

Since the Restoration Kingston has ceased to figure as a place of note: the progress of the whole nation has been great, and that progress has tended to centralization. London with its immediate neighbourhood has become the centre of the nation's trade, and, while other and more distant towns have, from their favourable position and distance become centres of manufacture or of commerce, Kingston, from its proximity to London and from the fact that it has no natural sources of wealth, after sustaining for a time a subordinate

<sup>u</sup> The initials of his name were cut on the tree and remained till the tree was felled in 1680.

The following inscription was placed upon the coffin of the ill-fated and beautiful lord Villiers.

"Depositum illustrissimi domini Francisci Villiers, ingentis speciei juvenis, filii posthumi Georgii ducis Buckinghamii, qui, vicesimo aetatis anno, pro rege Carolo et patriâ fortiter pugnando, novem honestis vulneribus acceptis, obiit 7 die Julii, Anno Domini 1648."

<sup>v</sup> This is a fitting place to note the fact that Cromwell, like another Conqueror, set the seal of his victories over the town by bestowing on it a *bell*, by the sound of which to warn the turbulent inhabitants to retire to rest at reasonable hours. Of this bell a better use is now made as a harbinger of market hours and a warning of fire.

rank as the centre of a considerable trade in malt and wool, has subsided into a quiet country town, with a trade barely sufficient to support itself; but though the commercial advantages of the place have suffered greatly or have been entirely destroyed, the population has increased with almost unprecedented rapidity.\* The rapid increase of population during the last twenty years is mainly owing to the influx of residents in the New Town, whose salubrity and ready communication with London render it a desirable residence for the families of professional men engaged in Town during the day: but the erection of numerous cottages for the accommodation of labourers engaged in the surrounding villages, has no doubt tended quite as much to the exhibition of this symptom of apparent prosperity.

During the last two centuries no great events have occurred in connexion with Kingston: the most remarkable features of the Town's History being the fashionable notoriety it attained at the commencement of the last century, and the rapid improvements made during the last twenty years. Kingston was, at the beginning of the eighteenth century, a favorite place of resort for retired citizens and their families; and was frequently the arena chosen by leaders of religious sects and parties for the early promulgation of their peculiar tenets. But the people, like those of Athens in former days, seem to have cared very little about such matters, and the apostles of rival sects, having gained neither honor nor renown, where they were justly treated as merely ambitious of popular applause, were in turn compelled to seek in other places the sympathy they failed to excite in Kingston. The character of the inhabitants during this long period seems, on their own shewing, to have been far from reputable; every vice and every species of immorality appears to have been practised more or less openly, and it was not till the present century that any great or marked improvement took place in the intelligence or prosperity of the Kingstonians. Within the last few years the town itself as well as the people has boldly progressed in the march of improvement.

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\* The population of Kingston-on-Thames without the hamlets of Ham and Hook,

In 1801 was	3793	
1821	4968	being an increase of 31 per cent. in 20 years
1831	5969	being an increase of 20½ per cent. in 10 years
1841	8094	being an increase of 35 per cent.       "
1851	10630	being an increase of 31 per cent.       "

The parish is of considerable extent, occupying an area of 4765 acres or nearly  $7\frac{1}{2}$  square miles. Of this quantity 1532 acres are under cultivation as ploughed land, 1400 acres are employed as pasture, while nearly 1200 may be considered as nearly waste, being occupied as warren, common and woodland, 500 acres are covered with buildings or used as gardens and yards, and the remainder consists of roadways, water and waste.\*

The soil, with the exception of the uplands on the hills at Combe and Surbiton, is a good and serviceable alluvial and diluvial deposit of loamy clay and sand. The river, before it was confined within its present narrow bounds, flowed sluggishly over most of the low lands, and has left a valuable surface soil which with a little care becomes highly productive. The summits of the hills are gravelly and poor; but not incapable of cultivation; for a portion of the worst part, at the top of Combe hill has been, within the last few years very successfully brought into cultivation by Mr. Garner, and proves that skill and energy alone are required to redeem the 1200 acres of land now unproductive and to give employment to many now idle hands.

An increasing population without employment aroused the Kingstonians of the *seventeenth* century; and they presented a petition to the then House of Commons setting forth "that the poor of the said town daily increasing are becoming very burdensome to the inhabitants; that there are large commons belonging to the said town, clear of timber, and of little use; which, if improved by sowing flax, hemp, &c., would employ their poor, and ease the inhabitants, who are willing to build conveniences for teaching and employing the poor and their children; which may not only be a comfortable subsistence to themselves but an advantage to the nation; and praying leave to bring in a bill, empowering them to enclose as much of their commons as they, from time to time, shall find cause to employ their poor; and that such enclosures may be exempted from all taxes and tythes." Leave was given to bring in a bill to authorize the enclosing of the said commons tythe free for a time; but, with a culpable negligence, the inhabitants took no further steps in the business. A similar scheme was set on foot about eighty

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\* It was the intention of the compiler to have added a map of the town and parish: but the Tithe map is far too inaccurate and the recent Ordnance map too meagre to furnish the necessary details. A good map of Kingston is a desideratum.

years afterwards; but was dropped in the same manner. Portions of the commons now running waste, if fenced off or staked out into small allotments and let at low rents or granted for terms to industrious workmen as a reward for diligence or thrift, would not only be of real benefit to them, but, in the course of a few years, by the improvement following spade husbandry and the care that small holdings always receive, would amply repay the owner.

Kingston has long been considered a healthy spot. Invalids have for years resorted to it for its quiet and for the benefit to be derived from the varied scenery in the neighbourhood. In the last century its springs were considered very valuable and the waters of Combe and of Seething Wells were in considerable repute for their medicinal properties. The springs at Combe<sup>y</sup> are medicinal in their character and the hot spring at Seething Wells was once thought an almost infallible remedy in certain cases of ophthalmia.

The scenery in the immediate neighbourhood of Kingston is remarkably varied and pleasing; and will amply repay a careful examination. From the brow of Combe-warren<sup>z</sup> may be obtained a very fine view of the Surrey hills, including Banstead and Epsom-downs, the Chalk hills which divide the county into two portions, Pain's-hill, St. George's, St. Ann's, and the Marlow hills with Windsor in the foreground. From Surbiton-hill, looking eastward are to be seen Norwood, &c. descending the hill and looking northward over the town, through the trees which form a beautiful margin to the landscape, the Hampstead and Highgate hills complete a very pleasing view, worthy the pencil of no mean artist: while the glimpses of landscape from the bridge, from parts of Richmond-park, and the banks of the river, with the many attractions afforded by the river itself, and the generally quiet character of the whole locality, leave it only matter for surprise that a town so well situated, and offering so many inducements as a place of residence and of trade should not advance more rapidly in importance, in intelligence and in prosperity.

The Old Town lies very low, and though much improved of late, is still but imperfectly drained. The New Town on

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<sup>y</sup> See analysis of this water in appendix.

<sup>z</sup> H. R. H. the duke of Cambridge has recently endeavoured to close the thoroughfare across this spot. Measures have however been adopted to induce H. R. H. to abandon the attempt, and it is hoped that this charming scene will not be altogether lost to the public.

Surbiton-hill, which has rapidly increased since the construction of the South-Western railway and consists principally of private residences, is well supplied with water from the works at Ditton, and has been well drained at a great expense by the proprietors of that portion lying between the Ewell and Brighton roads north of the railroad.

The extent of the jurisdiction of the several courts held here is not well ascertained. While the old charters were in force much confusion must necessarily have arisen from the fact that the words Town, Hundred, and Liberties were used with much latitude of signification; and since the Municipal Corporation Act, the boundary of the borough has never been carefully defined, nor the extent of the jurisdiction of its courts accurately ascertained. The Mayors and Ex-mayors are justices of the peace for the Town (and Hundred). The Court of Record has jurisdiction over the whole of the hundreds of Kingston, Elmbridge, Copthorne, and Effingham. The Manor formerly extended over the hundred but now comprises only the parishes of Kingston, Petersham and Long Ditton with a few hamlets, together about six miles long and two wide. The Coroners claim jurisdiction over the hundreds of Kingston and Elmbridge.

The Town is well protected by the police and still better by the generally peaceable disposition of its inhabitants; and, with the exception of some few nights in the year is tolerably well lighted with gas. There are no places of public amusement or recreation in Kingston; and indeed the place is altogether more distinguished for what it has not than for what it has. Its capabilities are great, but its progress has been slow: and though now showing some promising signs of vitality, it is not long since it was a reproach to the century in which it existed and was generally looked upon as a fine specimen of the age gone by.

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## CHAPTER V.

### THE CHURCH.

There has probably been a church at Kingston from the very earliest existence of christianity among the Saxons, for although no part of the present structure is supposed to date

further back than about the reign of Richard II, the mention of a church at Kingston is made in Domesday Book, and during the rebuilding of Winchester cathedral, which had been destroyed by the Danes some years before the compilation of that survey, the bishop had made Kingston his residence and used its parish church as a temporary cathedral.

Near the site of the church and adjoining it on the south stood the chapel of St. Mary, in which were preserved the effigies of Saxon kings crowned at Kingston. This chapel, a sketch of which in its modernized form, as existing about a century since, is given under the initial word at the head of the first chapter, was sixty feet long and twenty-five feet wide, the walls being two feet six inches thick. The original building was pierced with five narrow upright lights on the side and two at the end, the entrance being by a doorway at the west. This entrance was afterwards blocked up, a porch erected on the south side, and the character of the building entirely destroyed by the construction of a large gothic window at the east end.

Badewin Buscarius a citizen of London sometime about the reign of Edward II, bequeathed for the support of this chapel 18*d.* of rent from two houses, and the reliefs, heriots, escheats and other appurtenances of one of them.<sup>a</sup>

In the chapel were the effigies of Eldred, Edward the Martyr, and Ethelred, who had been crowned in the building, of Athelstane and Edwin, crowned in the Market-place, and of John.

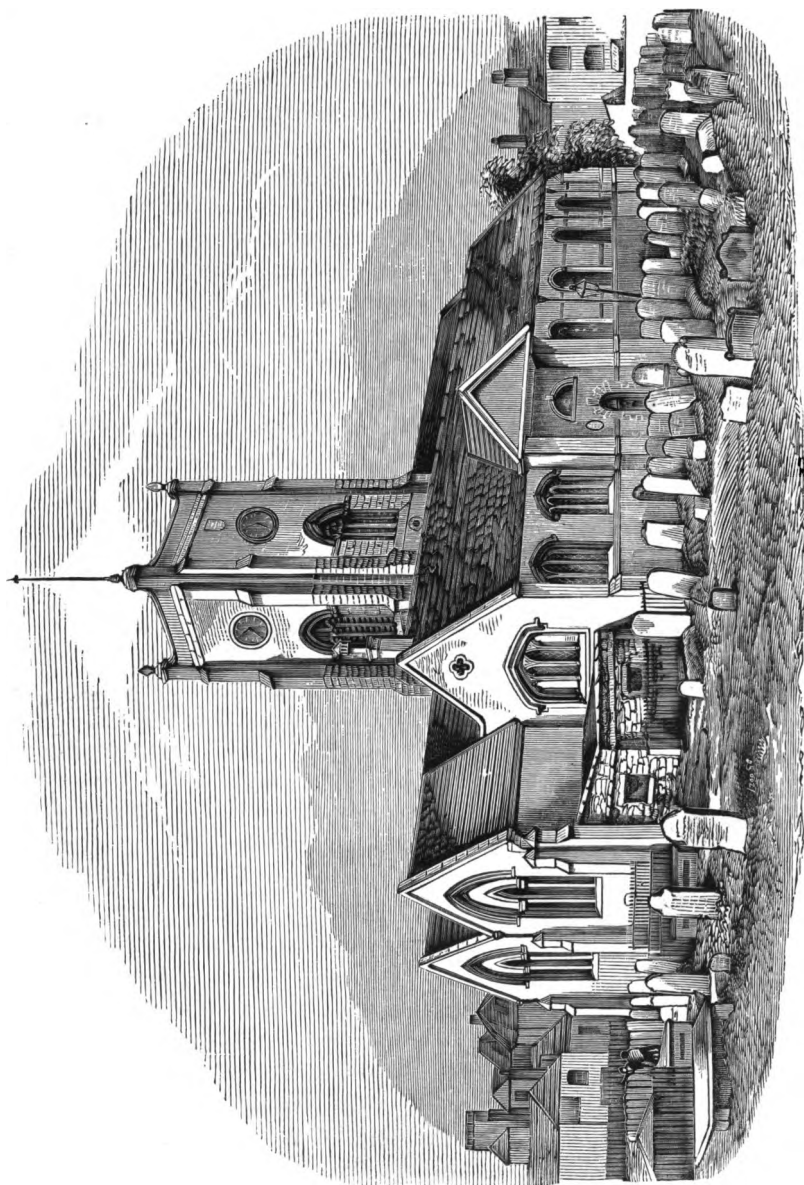
Early in the year 1730 this ancient chapel fell down. The particulars of the accident are thus related in a letter among Dr. Rawlinson's M.S.S. in the Bodleian library.

Kingston-upon-Thames, March 4, 1729-30.

"On Monday last, our sexton, with his son and daughter, being employed in digging a grave, part of the ancient chapel of St. Mary fell in upon them, killed the sexton and one other man (Richard Millis) on the spot; bruised and wounded several others; and buried in the grave both the son and daughter for above three hours: during which time many were employed in digging out the rubbish, in order to get at the bodies that were buried. Mr. Belchier and Mr. Siggins the bailiffs of the town, with the officers, were so good as to

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<sup>a</sup> A curious instance of the origin of surnames occurs in the will of this Buscarius. One of the houses being described as adjoining that of John le Tymbermonger.



**ALL-SAINTS CHURCH, KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES.**





attend the workmen and give proper directions. After the removal of the timbers and several loads of rubbish they heard very plainly some loud groans and cries in the grave. Soon after they came to the heads of two persons: the man was speechless and almost dead, having his head closely confined between two stones; the woman was not so much pressed; but being immediately taken care of by Dr. Cranmer, they are both in a fair way of recovery. The bailiffs and churchwardens, by their great humanity and diligence on this occasion, had a great share in preserving the lives of the two persons abovementioned, by their speedy removal of the rubbish, and by keeping off the crowd, who pressed in upon the labourers in great numbers. The damage, besides the lives already lost, is computed to amount to above £1000."

The sexton's name was Abram Hammerton; he was succeeded in his office by his daughter Hester, whose life was saved by the falling of a portion of a column over the grave in which she was working at the time. The piece of stone is still preserved in the church and an original portrait of the sextoness is in the possession of SUDLOW ROOTS, esq. Several mezzotint portraits of this masculine woman, from one of which the cut annexed has been reduced are in the hands of different inhabitants of the town. Hester Hammerton died in 1745-6.



The Parish Church (dedicated to All-Saints) is one hundred and fifty-five feet in length from east to west, and ninety-seven feet six inches in width through the transept. Its original form was that of a Greek Cross, probably filled in at the S.E. angle by a second chancel where it adjoined the chapel of St. Mary. The body of the church has been at different times much enlarged by the addition of north and south aisles and a north chancel. The latter is smaller than either the middle or south chancel, occupying only a portion of the N.W. compartment of the building, the extreme angle being filled by a low vestry built of chalk. A massive square tower rises from the intersection of the nave and transept, to the height of eighty-one feet.

Of the whole structure, a very small portion only dates so far back as the middle of the fourteenth century. The most ancient parts principally constructed of flint, stone and chalk, cemented and filled in with rubble, are the lower half of the tower, and the south chancel, and perhaps the columns and arches between the nave and aisles. The aisles were entirely rebuilt and the whole of the interior repaired and new ceiled in 1721, and the south portico was added less than a hundred years since.

The tower was formerly surmounted by a lofty wooden spire, which in the year 1445 was struck by lightning and almost entirely destroyed during a terrific thunderstorm, the effects of which were disastrously felt in many other places, particularly at Waltham and at St. Paul's in London where a similar catastrophe befel the steeples. The spire was rebuilt and faced with lead at the expense of Robert Somerby the vicar, about the year 1505, as appears from inscriptions on the tower, one of which is "Pray for the sole of Robert Somerby sometime vicar of Kyngeston" and the other gives the date above cited.

The new steeple suffered so severely during a tempest in 1703 that the removal of a greater portion of the tower became necessary, and the spire was consequently demolished and the tower taken down to within a few feet of the roof of the nave. The present superstructure of brick was erected, and the whole tower strengthened by buttresses at the angles within the next five years, as appears from an inscription on a tablet below the parapet on the south side of the tower: "This Tower was rebuilt Anno Domini 1708; Gideon Hardinge, vicar: Henry Lidgould and Terence Mahun, churchwardens." It was the wish of the inhabitants to replace the spire; but want of funds interfered with their plans; and an unsuccessful appeal to the House of Commons completely damped their ardour and put a stop to the works.

The square tower, finished at each corner above by a large pine apple, and surmounted by a lofty flag staff in lieu of a spire, is very conspicuous, and from its unique character an attraction and ornamental object as seen from any of the neighbouring hills: while the peal of ten bells remarkable and almost unrivalled for the silvery sweetness of their tones, when heard in the stillness of evening, and especially on the river's bank, lends a charm to many a sequestered nook in the surrounding country.

From the lead flat on the top of the tower may be obtained a fine view of the neighbourhood for some miles round. The town lies spread before the eye and exhibits, in its outline and in the figure of its different quarters, a pretty distinct history of the successive stages by which it has attained its present dimensions. On the north lies a square block of buildings, now the meanest and poorest part of the town, the only representative of ancient Moreford. On the right is the vicarage, which with the church and some adjacent lands at that time belonging to it were, as usual at that time, just without the boundary of the town. Immediately around the churchyard, and including Old Moreford, Thames-street, the Market-place, and the block of buildings and gardens bounded by the London-road on the north and Heathen-street on the east and south, is the site of Chingestune during the late Saxon and early Norman periods. On or near the site of the brewery now belonging to C. Rowlls, esq., and extending westward to the river side just beyond the Hogg's-mill creek, stood the Saxon Palace; while the Castle, once probably connected with the Palace, but afterwards in the hands of the Nevills, earls of Warwick, stood near the corner where Heathen street runs into the London-road. On the further side of Heathen-street was the Jews' quarter, beyond the precincts of the town: and it is supposed that the Fair-field, which extends farther eastward was used as a park or exercise ground for troops as well as for the games and sports of the populace, for which Kingston seems to have been always somewhat renowned. On the declivity of the hill facing the town on the east stood the Roman town Thamesæ; and on the high ground beyond, about a mile farther eastward (though not visible from the church) is the encampment used by Cæsar on the occasion of his invasion.

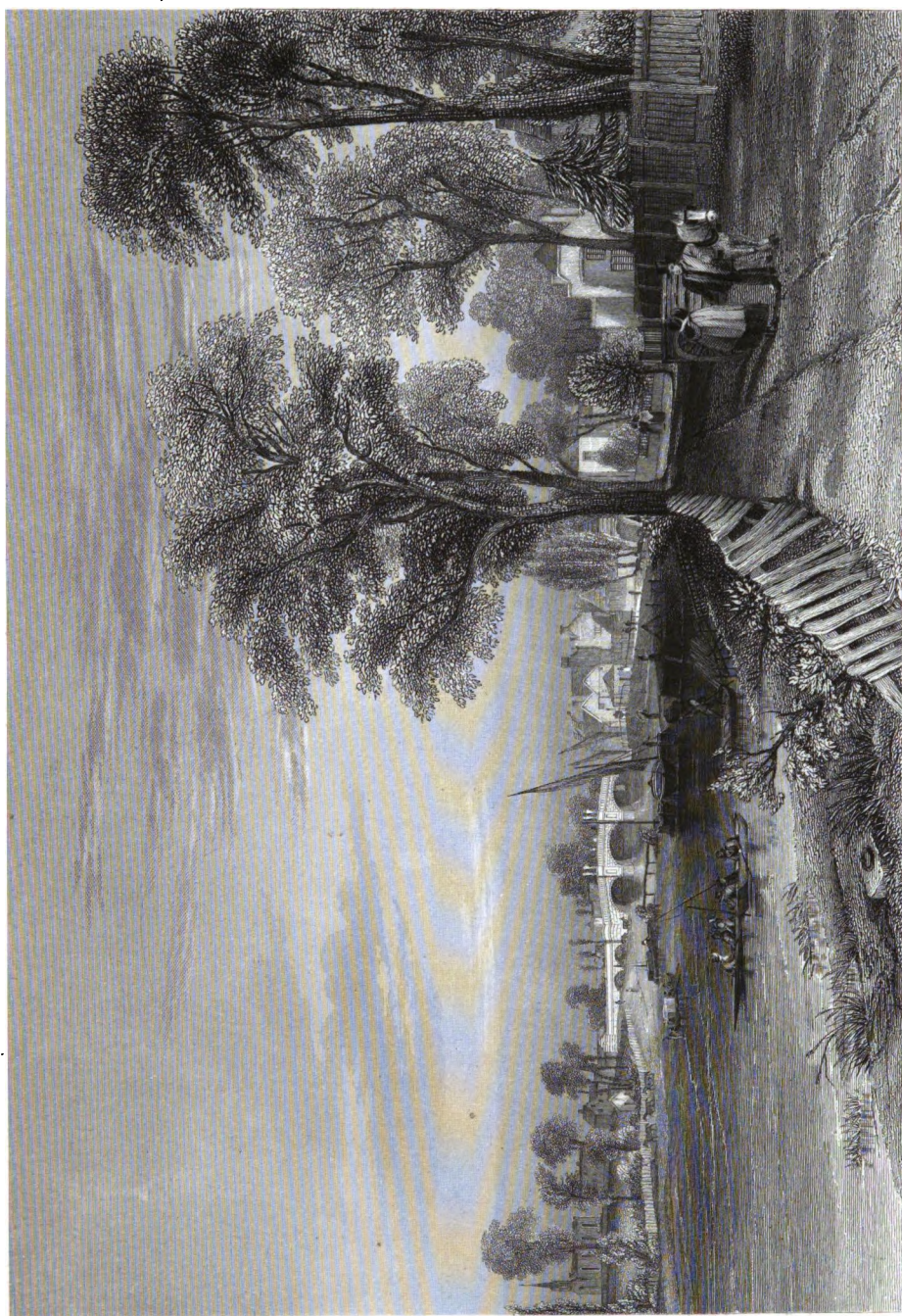
The principal objects of interest in the landscape around, as seen from this point of view are, on the horizon in the north Harrow-on-the-hill, and between that and Kingston are Hanwell, Richmond and its hill, and the Thames with the churches of Twickenham, Teddington and Ham. Eastward are London, Norwood and Brixton. On the S.E. is the modern suburb of Surbiton, beyond which are the Dorking and Epsom-downs. Directly south is Cockcrow-hill capped with a small clump of trees, and very probably a British barrow; beyond which are Box-hill and Leith-hill. In the S.W. are Claremont-hill, Paines'-hill, and George's-hill; and

in the foreground, prettily skirted by the river Thames, is the Home-park, at the end of an avenue in which is Hampton-court palace, and peering above the trees is the tower of Hampton church. On the west is Bushy-park with St. Ann's-hill in the background, and N.W. is Windsor castle, partially obscured by the more distant hills in the neighbourhood of Marlow. So interesting a survey amply repays the labour of a somewhat difficult ascent.

The interior of the church is by no means devoid of interest, though a system of modernising long practised has destroyed many vestiges of antiquity in the building itself; the ruthless spoliation of the fanatic Cromwelites has marred or annihilated numerous monuments and tablets, and still more recently the use of plaster and whitewash has effaced many interesting memorials of the past.

The nave is separated from the aisles on each side by four low and heavy pointed archways supported on dwarf octagonal columns; the whole being closely pewed, as is also that portion of the transept immediately under the tower, and capable of accommodating about one thousand persons. The corporation pew occupies a considerable space on the south side of the nave, extending from the reading desk nearly to the second column. The pulpit and reading desk are well placed near the piers supporting the tower. At the west end are two galleries, the lower of which was erected by Roger Pope, esq., in 1621, and contains a fine, though ill-preserved organ, erected at the expense of the inhabitants in 1793. A gallery over the north aisle was erected in the same year at the expense of the inhabitants of Kingston and Ham, and a right was reserved to the subscribers to appropriate the pews for their own special use during two lives. The major part of these pews, together with all those in the body of the church, are consequently free and unappropriable except by permission for a time during occupancy. There were formerly two galleries on the south side, one of which was erected by the bailiffs and freemen with 40 marks, the gift of Edward Buckland, about the year 1618; and the other was the gift of Mark Snelling. During the present year the south gallery has been partially rebuilt on the same plan as that on the north side and the body of the church is thereby much improved in appearance and in usefulness.

The ceiling of the nave is panelled, and from it depend two massive chandeliers, which have the effect, from certain



Engraved by Henry & Son

Drawn by T. M. Owen

VIEW ON THE BANKS OF THE THAMES.  
WESTERN APPROACH TO KINGSTON





points of view, of shewing that the nave and chancel are not built in a continuous line.

Over the archway separating the nave from the transept, and immediately behind the pulpit and desk, is a specimen of fresco painting representing a choir of cherubs: a remnant of a larger work which occupied the whole of the east end of the nave a few years ago, while the pulpit and desk were on the north side, opposite the corporation pew, the communion table occupied a position immediately under the painting, and the chancels were divided into several separate chapels. The alterations were rendered necessary by a reformed mode of worship and an increased population.

The ceiling under the tower is groined and supported by ribbed tracery springing from corbels representing Edward III and queen Phillippa.

The chancels are separated from the transept by a light screen, and communicate with each other by lofty gothic archways on light clustered columns. The area of the south and middle chancels is occupied by stalls and benches; the communion table is under the window at the east end of the middle or principal chancel, and the font is within a railing under the window in the southern chancel.—Almost all the monuments remaining in the church have been crowded within these chancels.

In the passage between the principal chancel and the vestry is a small piscina, and on the south side of the south chancel is another of more imposing character veiled under a gothic canopy, relics of the long departed mummeries of an apostacy too long dominant in the christian church.

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#### MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS, ETC.

- 1.—*North Aisle. Pavement.* Inscription to the memory of John Agar, a Commissioner of the Navy, who died in 1697. Thomas Agar, Mayor by prescription of James II in 1686 and twelve times Bailiff, who died in 1703. Henry Jenkins, esq., who died in 1760. Elizabeth Heard, died July, 1689; also Elizabeth Heard, her granddaughter, April, 1688; also Hannah, wife of Jno. Chamberlaine, January, 1710. Jno. Chamberlaine, May, 1722.

G

Mrs. Elizabeth Hodgson, wife of Henry Hodgson, died April, 1729.

Randall Redding, who died in March, 1711.

Arthur Gore, esq., who died in 1748; and others of the family.

John Cheney, died September, 1809; and others of the family, &c. &c.

*Against the Wall.* A tablet to the memory of Broome Phillips Witts, esq., who died in 1845.

2.—*South Aisle. Pavement.*

Thomas Jeffreys, 1793.

Mrs. Margaret Siggins, 1732; and others of the family.

Mr. John Gatehouse, January 23, 1788.

Mary Gatehouse, his wife, Oct. 13, 1799; and two children. Cæsar Picton.

Wellesly Bank Ricketts, September 21, 1815.

*Against the Wall.*

William Sells, esq., 1841; and Euphemia, his wife, 1843.

Francis and Mary Searle, Nov. 16, 1780; and Mary Searle, their mother, January 22, 1794.

William Dunbar, esq., of Forres, Nairnshire, Sep. 20, 1794.

(This tablet is much disfigured, the armorial bearings, now lost, were gules, a lion rampant argent, a crescent for difference, on a bordure of the second five pellets gu.)

*Against the Wall at the west end.*

Turner William Bentley, January 25, 1798; and an infant daughter

3.—*Nave. Pavement.*

Thomas Cranmer, M.D., August, 1748; John Cranmer, esq., 1773; and others of the family.

Mary Ann Francis, March, 1832.

There are also in this part of the church numerous marks on the floor showing the situation which sepulchral brasses have at sometime occupied. It is traditionally reported that the brasses were removed by Cromwell's soldiers after the death of Charles I, when they destroyed all vestiges of royalty within the church.

*Behind the Pulpit.*

Anne Furry, who died October, 1832.

William Disney, esq., of Elmers in this parish, April 22, 1839.

*Near the Desk.*

Frederick Powell, esq., E.I.C.S., June, 1807; and

Frederick William Powell, esq., June 8, 1827.



4.—*Transept. Pavement.*

Michael Waterhouse, January, 1732; and others of the family.

Sarah Pool, December, 1739; Miles Pool, 1794; &c.

Samuel Wood, May, 1790; and Jane, his wife, 1836.

Elizabeth Mercer, January 7, 1851.

Henry Turner, 1725; John Turner, 1726; &c.

Samuel Baxter, of Regent-street, Marylebone, 1834.

Thomas Knowles Pembroke, March 6, 1807; &c.

Philip Cawston, January 19, 1811.

*West Wall.*

A handsome monument to the memory of Charles Edward Jemmett, esq., for forty-two years Town Clerk of Kingston, who died in 1825; Sarah, his wife, 1818; Catharine Elizabeth, their daughter, 1818; and other members of the family.

Near this are the remains of a sepulchral brass which was some time ago discovered near the site of St. Mary's chapel. Portions only of two figures are preserved, representing a merchant and his wife. The inscription is

"Hic jacet Johannes Hertcombe,<sup>b</sup> Generosus,<sup>c</sup> et Katerina uxor ejus qui quidem Johannes obiit 22 Julii Anno Domini 1488, et Katherina obiit 22 die Julii Anno Domini 1477. Quorum animabus propicietur Deus. Amen."

Within the transept are also tablets to the memory of the following persons:—

Elizabeth Mary Booth, wife of Major Booth.

William French, 1790; and others of the family.

James Penfold, 1845; and Elizabeth, his wife, 1810.

James Wyburn, esq., October, 1848; and John William and James, his sons.

Anne Elizabeth Savage, relict of Rev. George Savage, the late Vicar of the parish; November 17, 1833.<sup>d</sup>

5.—*North or Belfry Chancel. Pavement* (now covered by a wooden floor).

Thomas Hawarde of this town, and of the Middle Temple in London, gent. John Hawarde, who was ensign to Captain North, brother to the Lord North, and died in Sir Walter Raleigh's last voyage.

<sup>b</sup> This Hertcombe lived in a house on the site of that now occupied by R. F. Bartrop, esq.

<sup>c</sup> Generosus is used here for "Gentleman" i.e. one of Generous Blood.

<sup>d</sup> For further notice of Mrs. Savage see "*charities*."

Thomas Hawarde, esq., five times a Magistrate of this town, February 6, 1655. Also Elizabeth, his wife, December 3, 1635. On this tablet is the following quaint rhyme:

Earth to Earth  
Ashes on Ashes lye, on Ashes Tread,  
Ashes engrav'd these words, which Ashes read.  
Then what poore thing is Man, when any gust  
Can blow his Ashes to their elder dust?  
More was intended but a Wind did rise  
And filled with Ashes both my Mouth and Eyes.

*Walls, North and East.*

Mary, wife of Sir Roger Newdigate; afterwards of Sir Francis Wyndham, and then of William Lowfield, esq., who died in 1733.

James Belchier, 1689; Mrs. Hannah Belchier, 1755; and James Belchier, 1747.

Hannah Mackrill, 1779.

George Bate,\* Physician to Charles II, and his wife are interred here, and were buried side by side in the expectation of a happy resurrection together.

Remains of ancient tombs with canopies are to be seen in the north and east walls.

6.—*Great Chancel.<sup>†</sup> The Pavement.*

Mrs. Ann Hooper, relict of Samuel Wicks, who afterwards married Benjamin Hooper of Clapham, died Oct. 1725.

Mrs. Ann Wicks, wife of Obadiah Wicks, Sept. 29, 1740; and others of the family.

Mrs. Mary Hopkins, wife of William Hopkins, and daughter of O. Wicks, died September 19, 1756.

John Greene, esq., died October 4, 1785–6.

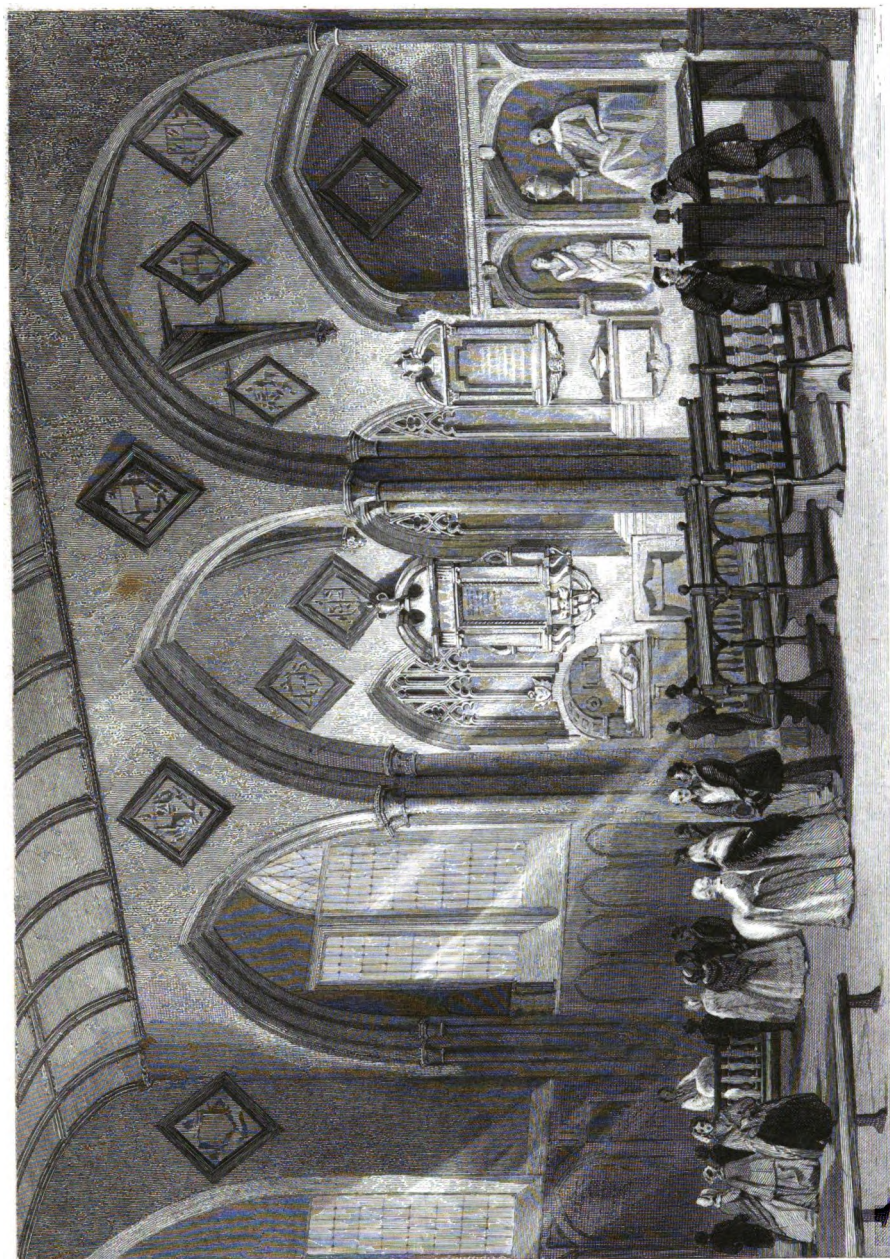
Robert Cooper, esq., died February 13, 1760.

Frederic Pigou, esq., died November 30, 1792.

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\* Dr. Bate was a native of Buckinghamshire, and educated at Oxford; where he practised for some years, principally among the Puritans. After taking his degree of M.D. he rose to great eminence, and became principal Physician to the king when he kept his court at Oxford. On the decline of Charles he went to London and so well succeeded in accommodating himself to the spirit of the times and the predilections of the great men of the day as to obtain the appointment of Physician to the Charterhouse, Fellow of the College of Physicians and principal Physician to the Protector. He proved the strength of his determination to remain at the head of his profession after the Restoration, by courting and obtaining the patronage of Charles II who made him his Chief Physician, and caused his election as a Fellow of the Royal Society. Wood says that his elevation under Charles II was owing to a report diligently spread by his friends that he had administered to Cromwell a dose which hastened his decease. Dr. Bate wrote a latin account of the late Commotion in England entitled "Elenchus Motuum nuperorum in Angliâ, simul ac Juris Regni et Parlamentarii brevis Narratio," also "The Royal Apology or the Declaration of the Commons in Parliament," besides several works relating to his profession.

<sup>†</sup> This chancel belongs to the impropiator of the great tithes.



J.H. Kornez

*All Saints Church, Kingston.*

*Looking South-Eastward.*

T. Allom.



Edward Dixon, of London, died April 6, 1763.  
 Benjamin Edmonds, Nov. 4, 1714; and others of the family.  
 Elizabeth Hawkins, February 12, 1776.  
 Elizabeth, wife of Morris Goulstone, esq., April 2, 1720.  
 Anne Farmer, October 3, 1748; William Farmer, &c.  
 Hannah King, Nov. 24, 1745; Thomas King, Nov. 13, 1750;  
     and William King, May 7, 1754.  
 Stephen London, August 27, 1763; and six of his children.  
 Sarah, wife of William Nuthall, 1684.  
 William Moore, October 28, 1750.  
 Jane, wife of Thomas Sympson, January 31, 1720.  
 Averilla Bristow, November 4, 1762.  
 George Clarke, January 28, 1716.  
 Richard Hawkins, August 8, 1789.  
 Maria Nicholson, November 11, 1837.  
 Elizabeth Nuthall, February 13, 1711.  
 William Pearch, of Bermondsey, November 8, 1711;  
     and Mary, his wife.  
 Thomas Osgood, of Newbury, April 3, 1763; and Jane, his  
     wife, the daughter of Benjamin Edmonds named above.  
 George Roots, esq., Oct. 29, 1830; and Ann, his wife: also  
 George Roots, esq.,<sup>§</sup> eldest son of the above, and Recorder  
     of Kingston, died October, 1831.  
 Captain Thomas Price, June 20, 1789.  
 Mrs. Elizabeth Duke, January 13, 1787.  
 Mrs. Mary Morton. The inscription runs thus:—

“Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Mary Morton, daughter of Robert Honeywood of Charing in Kent, esq., (by Mary, his wife, the wonder of her sex and this age, for she lived to see near 400 issued from her loynes) and widow of George Morton, of East Ware in Kent, esq., mother of Sir Robert Morton of East Ware Knt. sometime Captain in the Netherlands, Sir Thomas Morton, Knt. and Col. and of Sir Albert Morton, Knt., principal Secretary of State to king Charles; Vitam finivit 18 die Apr. 1634.”

John Milner, esq., H.M. Consul-General in Portugal, who  
     died at Lisbon, June 26, 1712; Elizabeth, his widow,  
     and their daughter,  
 Mrs. Anne Milner, June 13, 1711; and her son and daughter

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<sup>§</sup> George Roots, esq., Barrister-at-law, was born at Kingston, August 9, 1773. He received his early education at the Free Grammar School in this town, where he obtained celebrity for his great classical attainments. After studying the law for some years, he was entered of Lincoln's Inn, and soon after called to the bar and appointed by Lord Chancellor Loughborough a Commissioner in the Court of Bankruptcy, in which Court he for many years took a prominent part as an advocate. In April, 1830, he was unanimously elected Recorder of Kingston on the death of Mr. Evance, for whom he had acted as Deputy Recorder for several years previously. He held this office till his death in October, 1831. Mr. Roots published a translation of the Charters of Kingston-on-Thames in 1797, and was the author of several works on the Laws of Bankruptcy.

Robert Skern<sup>b</sup> and his wife. This monument is well worthy a careful inspection. It consists of a large flat stone, lying partly under the railing which surrounds the Communion table, inlaid with two brass figures each three feet long, representing Skern (who is habited in a long gown reaching to the feet, with wide sleeves such as those worn by a B.A. of Oxford, and cinctured by a girdle studded with roses) and his wife, beneath whose feet is an



Brasses of Robert Skern and Joan his wife.

inverted inscription in raised old English characters as follows :

roberti cista skerni corpus tenet ista, marmoreae petrae, conjugis atq' suae  
qui validus, fidus, discretus, lege peritus; nobilis, ingenuus, perfidiam tenuit:  
constans sermone, bita, sensu, ratione, communitur cuiq' justiciam voluit.  
regalis juris unicos promovit honores; fallere vel falli, res odiosa sibi.  
gaudeat in celis qui vixit in orbe fidelis; nonar' aprilis pridie qui morit'.  
mille quadringentis d'ni triginta-q' septem annis ipsius rex miserere jesu.

This inscription may be thus rendered in our own tongue.

The tomb constructed here of marble stone, contains  
All that of Robert Skern and of his wife remains,  
He, being valiant, faithful, cautious, skilled in law,  
Noble, ingenuous, did treachery abhor:  
Constant in speech, in life, in feeling and in thought,  
That justice freely and to all was due, he taught.  
The honors of the royal law alone he prized  
To cheat or be deceived a thing he quite despised.  
May he in Heaven rejoice who lived on earth sincere,  
Who died upon the fourth of April in the year  
Of Christ one thousand twenty score and thirty-seven.  
Have mercy on his soul Jesus thou King of Heaven.

<sup>b</sup> Robert Skern lived at Down-hall: his wife was the daughter of Edward III and Alice Perrers: (not of Sir William de Wyndesore who married Alice Perrers after Edward's

William Cleave, esq., Alderman of London, May 7, 1667.<sup>1</sup>

William Becket, nineteen years Confessor to the Household under James I and Charles I; and fourteen years Vicar of Kingston, who died October 10, 1626.

John Henton, esq., Sergeant of the Larder to Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, died June 9, 1584.

Samuel Robinson, of London, gent., Secretary to the Company of Merchant Adventurers, who died Nov. 16, 1625.

Lady Margaret Graham, who died March 1, 1832,; also The Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Graham, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, who died September 28, 1836; also Charlotte his sister, June 13, 1840.

Thomas Warren, the Infant son of Commander Warren, who died April 26, 1700.

Anne, wife of Mark Snelling, October 1, 1623.

Mark Snelling, nine times Bailiff, who died Feb. 27, 1633.<sup>1</sup>

Elizabeth, wife of William Harvest, July 11, 1722.

Hannah, eldest daughter of Rt. Hon. Sir Jno. Sinclair, Bart., and Sarah Maitland, his first wife, who died May 22, 1818.

Near the N.W. of the chancel is a finely executed marble statue of Louisa Theodosia, Countess of Liverpool. The figure, which is the size of life, and represents the Countess in an attitude of meditation, is by Chantrey. The inscription reads thus:

"Louisa Theodosia, Countess of Liverpool, born February, 1767, died June, 1821. She visited the fatherless and widows in their affliction and kept herself unspotted from the world."

Against the walls of this chancel are monuments to the memory of

Mark Snelling, esq. a benefactor to the poor of the parish.

death, as some have said; for on the death of Sir William his property did not descend to Skern's wife but to Sir William's three sisters. Vide Brayley's memoir of Alice Perrers in the History of the Ancient Palace of Westminster, edited by Brayley and Britton).

William, son of Robert Skern, was the founder of a chantry at Kingston: and Robert, his grandson, was made Keeper of the manor of Richmond, by Henry VII in 1485.

Some careful sexton would seem to have placed considerable value on this monument; for it has escaped the ravages alike of time and fanaticism which have spoiled the church of nearly all its ancient monuments. It was discovered in 1776, lying under a thin slab of stone: and is a very fine specimen of the arts as existing in the fifteenth century.

<sup>1</sup> See "Charities."

<sup>2</sup> Mark Snelling was a native of Kingston, a successful merchant, and for some time alderman of London. He was nine times bailiff of Kingston; and a great benefactor to the poor of the town. See "Charities."



Captain Francis Wilkinson, who beautified the church during his lifetime and died February 12, 1681; and Mrs. Anne Wilkinson, his wife, who died August 10, 1682.

Richard Clutton, who died May, 1635.

Nicholas Hardinge, Patron of the Church, Lord of the Manor of Canbury, and Recorder of Kingston, who died in 1758. He married Jane, daughter of Sir John Pratt, Chief Justice of England, and sister of Charles, Earl of Camden, Lord High Chancellor. George Hardinge, his son, whose praises are sufficiently published on this monument and who died in 1816, is likewise buried near the spot.

Sarah Garratt, who died in 1839.

Mrs. William Mercer, who died in 1834.

Sir Anthony Benn, formerly Recorder of Kingston, and afterwards Recorder of London, who died September 29, 1618. The Knight is represented by a recumbent figure, of alabaster, in his gown of office (which is coloured red), with a large ruff such as was worn at the time of his death; his head being reclined upon an embroidered cushion.

The Hon. Anthony Fane, third son of Francis, Earl of Westmoreland, who married Amabel, daughter of Sir Anthony Benn.<sup>\*</sup>

Lieutenant Colonel George Jenkinson, C.B., third son of John Jenkinson, esq., brother to Charles, first Earl of Liverpool, who died March 21, 1823.<sup>1</sup>

Philip Meadows, esq., of Richmond-park; the Right Honourable Lady Frances Meadows, and Thomas their son. The dates of whose deaths are August 8, 1781; December 9, 1795; and October 10, 1780.

Richard Lant, esq., who died November 23, 1682; Sarah his wife, and Temperance, their daughter.

Peter de la Rive, esq., who died in Hampton Wick, March 16, 1803.

Henry Davidson, esq., of Tulloch, N.B. who died June 1781; Duncan, his son, who died August 1799; and Lucy, the wife of Duncan Davidson, who died in 1777.

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<sup>\*</sup> He was a Colonel in the Parliamentary Army, and died at Kingston, in 1643, of a wound received at the siege of Farnham Castle in the December preceding.

<sup>1</sup> He served in Holland, and for five years in Spain, where he attracted the notice of the Duke of Wellington, by whose recommendation he obtained his promotion.



Henry Davidson, esq., who died January 7, 1827. This monument is in marble by Ternough, and represents the deceased in full length seated in a low chair, on the back of which one arm is easily resting. The inscription, as a specimen of modesty rarely to be met with under similar circumstances, is worthy of preservation: it is

"Hic jacet in expectatione diei supremi Henricus Davidson, ob. vii Jan. 1827, æt. 56. Qualis erat iste dies indicabit."

Elizabeth Caroline, wife of the above, who died May 4, 1828.

John Strange, son of Mr. William Strange, who died in 1826, &c.

John Westall, esq., 1817; Mary Westall, 1831.

Frances, wife of Major General W. H. Blachford, who died at Ham, January 21, 1817.

Edmund James, esq., 1809.

#### 7.—*South or Vicar's Chancel. Pavement.*

Catherine Elizabeth Jemmett, who died in 1818.

Also a curiously inscribed slab of brass of which the following is a transcript:

1653.

Here ly y <sup>e</sup> Bodies of	{	Frances, Richard, Mary, Mathew, Mary,		Richard, Edmvd, Edmvd, Sarah, Richard,	}	Children which y <sup>e</sup> Lord gave to EDMVND STAYNTON, Dr. of D. late Minister of Kingstō vpon Thames, now Presit <sup>r</sup> of Corpvs Christi Colledge, Oxon; by Mary his Wife, Daight <sup>r</sup> of Rich. Balthorp, Servant to y <sup>e</sup> late Queene Elizab
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- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| a. Iob 1. 2.                      | Ten Children in one graue! A dreadfull sight;<br>Seuen Sons & Daughters three, Job's number <sup>s</sup> right. |
| b. Eccl. 11. 10.                  | Childhood <sup>b</sup> & Youth are Vaine, Death reigns ouer all;  |
| c. Rom. 5. 14.                    | Even those who never Sin'd like Adams <sup>c</sup> fall:  |
| d. Rom. 5. 12.                    | But why over all. In th' first <sup>d</sup> Man every one<br>Sin'd and fell. not He himselve alone.             |
| e. 1 Cor. 15. 22.<br>1 Tim. 1. 1. | Our hope's <sup>e</sup> in Christ. The second Adam; He  |
| f. Mat. 1. 21.                    | Who saues <sup>f</sup> th' Elect from Sin and Misery.   |
| Rom. 5. 9, 10.                    | What's that to Vs poore Children? This our Creed,   |
| g. Gen. 17. 7.                    | God is <sup>g</sup> a God to th' faithfull, and their seed.   |
| h. 1. Thes. 4. 14.                | Sleepe <sup>h</sup> on deare Children, never that you wake  |
| i. Rev. 20. 12.                   | Till Christ doth raise <sup>i</sup> you & to Glory take.  |

#### *Walls.*

Thomas Wood, of Hampton Wick, 1692.  
(A curious wooden monument.)

Thomas Willis, S.T.P., who died October, 1692.

Richard Mayo, September 8, 1695.

William Comer, M.A., July, 1766.

George Savage. M.A., July 27, 1816.

These four were Vicars of Kingston.

H

Maria Sharp, who died in 1629.

John Woodall, September, 1735.

William Rimes, L.L.D., April 28, 1718.

Elizabeth, the wife of the above, May 24, 1737.<sup>m</sup>

The body of the Chancel, and the Churchyard, having been used for so many years as places of sepulture, are now overcharged; and since the year 1830 restrictions have been placed upon the opening of graves in either. The New Burial Ground is the most frequent place of interment, and it is now almost entirely occupied. The tombs and monuments in the Churchyard and the Burial Ground are very numerous, but not of sufficient interest to warrant lengthened notice.

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#### THE LIVING.

The Advowson, with that of the four Chapelries of Thames Ditton, East Moulsey, Petersham and Shene annexed, was given in the reign of Henry I, by Gilbert Norman the Sheriff of the county, to the Prior and Convent of Merton, who obtained license to appropriate it and retained possession until the suppression of their house by Henry VIII, in 1538.

The Living was early endowed; for about the year 1235 a Prior who signs himself H. granted, in augmentation of an endowment made by the Bishop a long time before, the following particulars, viz:— a rent-charge of 20s.; the tithe of six mills in the parish 12s.; the rent of four wears 6s.; certain oblations amounting to 6s. 8d.; and a rent to be paid by the cellarer 15s. 4d., making in all £3 a year. This endowment was afterwards, on occasion of a dispute which was referred to the Bishop, explained and enlarged thus, viz: 1st.— *Oblations* payable on All-Saints day and other feasts; *Mortuaries*,<sup>n</sup> *Churchings*, *Weddings*, *Masses* on Lord's-day, *Confessions* in Lent and on Good Friday, and for *eggs* at Easter. 2nd.— *Tithe* of cows, calves, cheese, milk, honey, and a third part of the tithe of pigs; also tithe of pigeons, of the fishery of four wears, and of the whole Thames as far as West Shene; of gardens, curtilages, and all lands dug by foot, flax, hemp, and

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<sup>m</sup> Mrs. E. Rimes was the donor of the large chandelier which hangs in the body of the church: on which is this inscription, "This branch was given to the parish of Kingston-upon-Thames, by Mrs. Elizabeth Rimes, widow, in the year of our Lord 1736."

<sup>n</sup> Gifts left by a dying man in lieu of tithes unpaid.

the produce of warrens in Kingston, Petersham, Ham, Norbiton, Surbiton, Combe, Hatch and Hook; and the tithe of six mills. 3rd.—Two quarters of wheat, one of barley, and one of oats to be yearly delivered at the Grange of the Prior for Kingston; three quarters of wheat of the parishioners of Petersham, with other small tithes; and tithe of their profits, by the tradesmen of Kingston.

This was declared to be sufficient for the maintenance of hospitality; the payment of the Bishop's dues, and the discharge of the duties incumbent on the Vicar. But, while the Vicar was made responsible for all ordinary charges, the Convent was charged with the repair and rebuilding of the chancel, the repair and supplying of necessary books, vestments and ornaments of the church.

This arrangement appears to have been unsatisfactory; for in 1352 the Bishop made a fresh award in the matter, and in consideration of a further augmentation the Vicar had to find his own books, &c., the Impropriators being liable only to the repairs of the chancel and to a share of any extraordinary charges that might arise. The Bishop insisted however on the erection by the Convent of a Vicarage house, to consist of a hall and two chambers well drained, a kitchen with a chimney and fireplace, and stabling for six horses. The site of this house is thus described; "in a certain street of the town of Kingston near the small rivulet<sup>\*</sup> and the king's highway, on the east side of the church, which runs between the said rivulet and the tenement and close of John de Kent."

The house provided by the Impropriators was of very unsubstantial character; for, within three years Edward III gave John Lovekyn permission to bestow on the Vicar another house in lieu of it, and, in 1366 the Bishop authorized the demolition of the old Vicarage on account of its having gone to decay. The house given by Lovekyn was worth £30 per annum and its situation is described as on the road "leading to the bridge called the Barr, between the tenement of John de Wydwesone on the south, the common way on the north, the King's High-street on the west, and the Town Ditch on the east."

The dispute between the Priory at Merton and the Vicar continuing, a commission was appointed by Bishop Wickham in 1375, to examine the facts of the case and to rearrange the

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\* The Latchmere River or Town Ditch.

matters in dispute: and the substance of the agreement entered into was

That the Vicar should be entitled to all Oblations, and all Legacies and Gifts not specially given for the fabric of the chancels; also to all Mortuaries, and profits of Confessions, Burial and Funeral rites: to Tithe of cows, calves, goats, kids, hogs, rabbits and all other wild animals, poultry, pigeons, swans, peacocks, geese, ducks, and every kind of fowl, cheese, milk, things made of milk, bees, honey, wax and eggs (except in those manors specially belonging to the Priory of Merton, viz:—Moleseye, Berewell, Hertyndon, and Canonbury): also of flax, hemp, and warrens, of corn and other things growing on land dug by the foot, of pastures, willows, osiers, underwood and fuel, vines and fruit trees, (except in the manors aforementioned): of lambs, wool, and skins within the Chapelries of Ditton, Moleseye and Shene (except on the grounds of the Prior at Moleseye): also the tithe of merchandize: also the whole produce of cemeteries, except trees: also "pigeons and other birds bred in the Church or Chapels;" also the tithe of mills and fisheries in the Thames, &c. (except of the Mill at Moleseye, of the Wears and neighbouring waters at Brentford and of the Wear at Kayho (Kew); also a certain rent of 5*s.*, thirteen quarters of grain from the Priory, 4 marcs of silver from the parishioners towards the support of a Chaplain, all small tithe of every kind, besides three loads of wheat straw to be received from the Priory towards the repairs of the three Manses at Canonbury, Moleseye, and Hatche.

That the Impropriators should receive the Great Tithe of corn grown on ploughed land, hay, quick mortuaries<sup>p</sup>, wool, lambs and skins within the Town and the Hamlets of Norbelton, Sorbelton, Combe, Hertyngdon, Hatche, Hamme, Petrisham, la Hoke, and Berewell; and all other tithe not assigned to the Vicar; as well as the house lately assigned to the Vicar and situated near the rivulet (i.e. the old one).

The Impropriators covenanted to repair, and when necessary to rebuild the chancels. They granted in augmentation of the Vicarage three pieces of land, one at Ditton, one at Shene and another at Moleseye, for Manses for the Chaplains there, which the Impropriators covenanted to erect but which were to be kept in repair by the Vicar.

The Rectory was valued by Pope Nicholas at 120 marcs: the Vicarage at 8 marcs.

In the year 1535, three years before the Suppression of the Monastery at Merton the Vicarage was valued at £54 14*s.*<sup>q</sup>

<sup>p</sup> i.e. such gifts left by a dying man in lieu of tithe unpaid, as consisted of living animals.

<sup>q</sup> The particulars of the valuation are as follow:—

	£	s.	d.
1.—Dwelling House, 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> Dovecoat, 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> Garden, 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> ..	1	0	0
2.—Two quarters Bread Corn, 12 <i>s.</i> Two quarters White Wheat, 6 <i>s.</i> Four quarters Miscelin, 16 <i>s.</i> Two quarters Barley, 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> ..	2	2	8
3.—Tithe of the Manor of Combe, 20 <i>s.</i> Chapel Farm, 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> Farm of Erasmus Ford, 6 <i>s.</i> ..	1	12	8
4.—Tithes of Inns, viz:— Crane, 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> Bell and Swan, 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> Crown, 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> Angel, 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> Castle, 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> Rose, 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> George, 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> Cross Keys, 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> Greyhound, 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> ..	1	16	8
5.—Tithes of Mills, viz:— Hog's Mill, 9 <i>s.</i> Middle Mill, 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> Chapel Mill, 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> ..	1	2	4
6.—Tithes of Geese, Pigs, Trade, &c. ....	13	18	8½
7.—14.—Oblations amounting to .....	12	14	5
15.—Mortuaries .....	0	3	4
16.—Pension received of the Prior at Shene .....	0	13	4
17.— of the Churchwardens of Kingston towards a Secondary at the Church .....	2	13	4
18.—Paschal Money, for maintaining the Paschal Taper .....	0	1	4
19.—Three quarters White Wheat for the Secondary .....	0	12	0
20.—Receipts of the Richmond Chapel, £6. Of Thames Ditton, £6 13 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> Of East Moulsey, £4 .....	16	13	4
	55	4	1½
Charges payable to the Bishop .....	0	10	1½
Clear yearly value .....	£ 54	14	0

The income of the Vicar suffered greatly during the next few years, for in 1552, in consequence of a complaint made by Edward Sepham the Vicar a commission was appointed to examine into the state of the Vicarage; and it appears from the account rendered that the receipts upon the different items mentioned in the valuation made by order of Henry, amounted to no more than £20 5s. 10½*d.* for which amount the Vicar was held accountable till the year 1706, at which time the Living was entirely discharged, excepting only from the payment of 7s. 7½*d.* yearly for procurations and 2s. 6*d.* for synodals, for which sums it had been liable ever since the year 1535.

On the Suppression of Merton Priory in 1538, Henry VIII granted the Advowson to Sir Nicholas Carew; but seized it again in the following year, on the attainder of Sir Nicholas. It was at one time in the hands of John White, bishop of Winchester. Queen Elizabeth leased it to Edward lord Clinton. James I granted it first to Francis Morrice, esq. and Francis Phelips, gent., to their heirs and assigns for ever to hold of the king, as of the manor of East Greenwich, by fealty, in free socage, on payment of £54 18s. 8*d.* annually to the Exchequer; and (though in what way it fell again into the king's hands is not known) subsequently to John Ramsay earl of Holderness, of Norbiton Hall, who died seized of it in January, 1624-5: and Martha his second wife, surviving him, held it as part of her jointure, till her death in 1641, when it descended to John Ramsay, esq., the heir of her husband.

At an Inquisition held at Kingston in 1658 by the Commissioners whom Cromwell appointed to inquire into the estate of Ecclesiastical Benefices, it was presented that the Rectory belonged to Sir Lionel Tollemache, and that the Great Tithes were worth £500 per annum: but, as the Presentation was in the hands of the above-named John Ramsay in 1671, and sold by him in that year to Nicholas Hardinge, esq., in whose family it remained till recently, it is propable that Sir Lionel Tollemache had only the next presentation at the date of the commission.

Nicholas Hardinge, who purchased the Living of the Ramsays, was a younger brother of Sir Robert Hardinge, of King's Newton in Derby, knt., and on the death of his son in 1736-7 the Benefice became the property of his heir at law and cousin Nicholas,<sup>r</sup> son of Gideon and grandson of Sir Robert.

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<sup>r</sup> Nicholas Hardinge, esq. was educated at Eton and thence elected a Fellow of King's

In consequence of the great increase in the population of Kingston and its dependent Chapelries it was enacted in 1769.

1.—That, from and after the next avoidance of the Vicarage of Kingston, and of the Chapelry of Richmond, the said Vicarage and Chapelry, including the Hamlets of Ham and Hook should be deemed and established a separate and distinct Vicarage, by the name of the Vicarage of Kingston-upon-Thames, with Shene otherwise Richmond.

2.—That, from and after the next avoidance of the Vicarage of Kingston, and from and after the avoidance of the Chapelries of Petersham and Kew next ensuing such avoidance of the Vicarage, the said Chapelries should also be deemed and established a separate and distinct Vicarage, by the name of the Vicarage of Kew and Petersham.

3.—That, from and after the passing of this Act, the two several Chapelries of East Moulsey and Ditton-upon-Thames, should be established perpetual Curacies, distinct from each other and from the Vicarage of Kingston.

4.—And that George Hardinge, esq., the present Lay-Impropriator of this Benefice, and Patron of the Vicarage, should have the perpetual Advowson and right of Presentation to the said Vicarages and perpetual Curacies; and that the perpetual Advowson to the said Vicarages and Curacies should henceforth for ever be vested in the *same* person, never to be separated or divided.

Mr. G. Hardinge retained these powers and privileges till the year 1786, when the whole were purchased of him by the Provost and Fellows of King's College, Cambridge, in whose hands the presentation is now vested.

On the death of Mr. Wakefield, the Incumbent of Richmond, in 1806, the first avoidance since the passing of the above-named act occurred, when Mr. Savage, the Vicar of Kingston took possession of both Vicarages in accordance with the provisions of the act.

Within the last few years the population of Kingston and the surrounding parishes has so much increased that it has become necessary to build several new Churches and Chapels. The Chapels of Ham and Hook and the District Churches of

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College, Cambridge. On leaving the University he studied the law, and became a Barrister. In 1731 he was appointed Chief Clerk to the House of Commons. And after serving in the offices of Law Reader and subsequently of Attorney General to H. R. H. the duke of Cumberland, he was elected in 1747-8 Member for Eye: he served also as Receiver General of the Duchy of Cornwall, and in conjunction with James West, esq., as Secretary to the Treasury in 1752. He was Recorder of Kingston for the last 32 years of his life: and died April 15, 1758.

St. John's at Richmond, St. Peter's at Norbiton and St. Mark's at Surbiton have all been erected within the Incumbency of the present highly respected Vicar.

## VICARS OF KINGSTON.

PATRONS.	VICARS.	INSTITUTED.
Prior and Convent of Merton.....	Richard .....	1231
Ditto .....	Richard de Gildeford .....	?
Ditto .....	Roger de Kyngeston, June 4 .....	1322
Ditto .....	Walter de Friskeneve, May 3 .....	1327
Ditto .....	William Saxeby, August 29 .....	1335
Ditto .....	John Niewelonde, February 17 .....	1335-6
Ditto .....	Henry de Trentham, March 2 .....	1337-8
Ditto .....	Humphry de Wakefield, March 25 .....	1339
Ditto .....	Nicholas de Liomis, June 14 .....	1341
Ditto .....	Maurice Barnabas de Botykesham, } April 11 .....	1342
Ditto .....	William de Borstal .....	
Ditto .....	Robert de Hynkeley .....	
Ditto .....	Nicholas de Irtlyngburgh .....	
Ditto .....	Robert de Bokenhulle .....	
Ditto .....	John Balton, D.D., May 10 .....	1392
Ditto .....	John Wyttenham, August 30 .....	1413
Ditto .....	William Fronta, resigned .....	1450
Ditto .....	John Whyne, June 11 .....	1450
Ditto .....	John Machon, September 2 .....	1458
Ditto .....	Hugh Wolf, M.A., April 24 .....	1462
Ditto .....	Edward Underwood, July 24 .....	1466
Ditto .....	John Clark, October 24 .....	1468
Ditto .....	Robert Somersby, June 11 .....	1478
Ditto .....	Nicholas West, L.L.D., * May 3 ..	1502
Ditto .....	Robert Somerby .....	1505
Ditto .....	Laurence Stubbs, D.D., died in ..	1536
Sir Nicholas Carew, knt.....	Edmund Holtman, September 2 ..	1536
Jasper Horsey, esq .....	Edward Sepham, B.D., May 9 .....	1542
	Arthur Bury, (or Thos. Atterbury) ?	
John Beard .....	Stephen Chatfield, June 9 .....	1574
Sir John Fortescue, knt .....	James Fytch, D.D., July 13 .....	1598
King James I .....	Owen Hughes, M.A., December 18,	1607
	William Becket, B.D., April 28 ..	1613
	George Seaton, D.D. ....	?
Abraham Chamberlayne .....	Edmund Staunton, M.A., <sup>†</sup> Feb. 14, 1631-2	
	Richard Mayo <sup>u</sup> .....	?
	Thomas Twitty, B.D. ....	1662
John Ramsay, esq. ....	Thomas Willis, D.D., <sup>v</sup> August 21 ..	1671
Nicholas Hardinge, esq. ....	Gideon Hardinge, M.A., Nov. 17 ..	1692
Nicholas, son of the above .....	John Broughton, D.D., March 17 ..	1712-3
Ditto .....	Richard Coliere, M.A. ....	1720
Ditto .....	Gilbert Burroughs, M.A. ....	1726
Ditto .....	William Comer, M.A., February 22,	1726-7
John Bayley <sup>w</sup> .....	George Wakefield, M.A., <sup>x</sup> Nov. 27,	1766
George Hardinge, esq. ....	James Andrews, D.D., July 11 .....	1776
Ditto .....	Henry Hardinge, M.A., <sup>y</sup> Sept. 22 ..	1778
Provost and Fellows of King's Col., Cambridge	William Cox, M.A., <sup>z</sup> July .....	1787
Ditto .....	George Savage, M.A., <sup>a</sup> July .....	1788
Ditto .....	Samuel Whitelock Gandy, M.A., } January 23 .....	1817

\* Dr. West was a Scholar of Eton and Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. He was consecrated Bishop of Ely in 1515, and died in 1533.

<sup>†</sup> Dr. Staunton was born in 1600. His father Sir Francis Staunton of Woburn not thinking it sufficient that the young man should merely *live* upon the good estate he

## CHANTRY.

In May, 1459, William Skern of Kingston obtained permission to found a Chantry of one Chaplain at the altar of St. James in the parish church of All-Saints, to pray for the health, and souls of the King, the Bishop, and of Robert and Joan Skern his father and mother: and that the Chantry should be called Skern's Chantry for ever. The Chantry was duly incorporated, and endowed with a house Skern had recently erected near the Churchyard, and with a further annual rent for the support of the Chaplain. At the time of its dissolution in 1553, there were two Chaplains who received one £5 and the other £4 per annum.

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would inherit, had him carefully educated: and the son appears to have deserved and made good use of his opportunities, for he was elected Probationary Fellow while yet an Undergraduate, carrying the election against eighteen competitors. He became Vicar of Kingston in February, 1631-2, having exchanged for it the Living of Bushey, with Dr. George Seaton. In 1634, having refused to read the Declaration for allowing sports and pastimes to the people on Sundays, he was suspended, and during his suspension took the degree of D.D. He sided with the Presbyterians, and was one of the Assembly of Divines in 1643. He was a popular Preacher and a very useful man: and frequently preached in the City of London and before the Long Parliament. He was made President of C.C.C. in 1648; but was ejected at the Restoration; and in 1662 compelled by the Bartholomew Act to cease from his public teaching. He then became a private Preacher at Bovington in Hertfordshire, where he died in July, 1671. He was much respected by his parishioners at Kingston, where his discourses and his exemplary character and conduct were productive of great good. He published several sermons during his ministry.

<sup>u</sup> Richard Mayo was a very popular Preacher and his lectures both at Kingston and Whitechapel were always well attended. He left Kingston on the passing of the Act of Uniformity, but appears to have returned within a few months and founded a Congregation in connexion with the Presbyterians, and to have resided here till his death in 1695. He was a man of great learning and well skilled in Divinity: his temper was remarkably mild and agreeable and his whole conduct marked by sincerity and prudence. He left two sons, one of whom took Holy Orders and the other succeeded his father as the Minister of the Presbyterian Congregation at Kingston.

<sup>v</sup> Dr. Thomas Willis was at one time Chaplain to Charles II. He acted with the Presbyterians and was one of the Commissioners for ejecting Scandalous Ministers.

<sup>w</sup> Mr. Bayley married Isabella, cousin of Nicholas Hardinge the younger, and by agreement, had the next presentation after Mr. Hardinge's death.

<sup>x</sup> He was the father of the late Gilbert Wakefield who died in 1801, and of George, the last person who held the Living of Richmond separate from the Vicarage of Kingston.

<sup>y</sup> Younger brother of the Patron.

<sup>z</sup> William Cox was the son of Dr. William Cox, Physician to the Royal Household, and was educated at Eton and at King's College, Cambridge. He travelled much upon the Continent before accepting this Vicarage and published several works on the Countries he visited, viz:— "Travels in Switzerland and the Country of the Grisons," "Russian Discoveries," and "Travels into Poland, Russia, Sweden and Denmark;" and after leaving Kingston he published a "Historical Tour in Monmouthshire." In 1803 he was chosen a Canon of Salisbury and became Domestic Chaplain to the Bishop of that Diocese; and in 1805 he was appointed Archdeacon of Wilts.

<sup>a</sup> Mr. Savage was the first Vicar of the united parishes of Kingston and Richmond. He had received his education at Eton and at King's College, Cambridge, where he took a good degree in 1774, and was for some time a successful and valued Teacher in the College to which he owed his success. He held the Rectory of St. Mary, Aldermary, in conjunction with the Vicarage of Kingston: and, after a long and useful life died on July 27, 1816.—The memory of the Rev. John Cundall who for many years assisted Mr. Savage in his Parochial duties, will be long deservedly cherished by the inhabitants of Kingston. He was a pattern of excellence; adorning by his conduct both in public and in private, the Doctrine of his Master.



## GILD.

Robert Bardesey of Kingston founded a Gild here in 1477 under the title of "The Two Wardens of the Fraternity of the Holy Trinity in Kingston, and of the Brethren and Sisters of the same" and this Gild was regularly incorporated and authorized to use a common seal, and appoint a Chaplain for the due performance of divine service in the Church.

Clement Milam of Kingston bequeathed, in 1498, to the Wardens, &c. of this Fraternity certain lands, tenements, &c. in Kingston, if by law they might receive them: otherwise the profits of these lands were to be applied yearly to such profitable and charitable purposes as his feoffees should be well advised to apply them to.

## REGISTERS, CUSTOMS, ETC.

The Registers of the Parish extend from the date 1542 almost without interruption to the present time. Many curious entries in these registers refer to old customs more or less intimately connected with the town, among which are the following:—

*The Kyngham.* This was a kind of drama performed at the expense of the Churchwardens; after which a collection was made for the benefit of the parish. The following entries refer to it:—

£   s.   d.

"Be y<sup>t</sup> in mynd that y<sup>e</sup> 19 yere of Kyng Harry y<sup>e</sup> 7, at y<sup>e</sup> geveng out the Kynggam by Harry Bower and Harry Nycol, cherchewardens, amounted clerely £4 2s. 6d. of that same game."

"Mem. That the 27 day of Joun a<sup>o</sup>. 21 Kyng H. 7, that we Adam Bakhous and Harry Nycol hath made account for the Kenggam that same tym don Wylm Kempe, Kenge, and Joan Whytebrede quen, and all costs deducted"..... 4   5   9

"23 Hen. 7. Paid for whet and malt and vele and motton and pygges and ger and coks for the Kyngham"..... 0   33   0

"To the taberare"..... 0   6   8

"To the leutarre"..... 0   2   0

"1 Hen. 8. Paid out of the churche box at Walton Kyngham"..... 0   3   6

These and sundry other entries seem to show that the game as practised here differed somewhat from that of other towns where three kings were customary under the name of the Three Kings of Cologne and where no queen was introduced. There is however no certain account of the nature of this game. The clear profits in the 15th year of Henry VIII, when the drama was last acted here, were £9 10s. 6d.

*Robin Hood and May Game.* Entries as late as the 29th year of Henry VIII show that the Sports of May were here celebrated with considerable spirit. The Churchwardens were continually called upon for the supply of dresses for the morris dancers and principal characters in this drama of Robin Hood and the Maid Marian. In the 16th year of Henry VIII the profits of this game or play amounted to £3 10s. 6d.

This game was in much repute in Henry the VIII's reign: so much so indeed, that the king and his nobles frequently joined it in disguise.

*Hocktyde.* A festival in commemoration of the death of Hardicanute and the extirpation of the Danes, and held on the Monday and Tuesday following Easter week. This festival was last kept in 1578, when the following entry occurs:—

“Received of the women upon Hoc Monday” . . . . . 5s.

These games were probably celebrated in the Church or Churchyard; for we find in the Register kept at Winchester, the copy of a mandate issued by William of Wykeham the Bishop of the Diocese, forbidding under pain of excommunication, the practices of juggling, dancing, ballad-singing, the performance of farces, and other games in these places.

A ceremony, not confined to this parish, and consisting in the cracking of nuts by the whole congregation on Michaelmas-eve, has scarcely fallen into disuse. Cracknut Sunday, in connection with the election of the Bailiffs being still in the memory of many persons living. The origin or meaning of this absurdity is unknown.

The only remaining game among the inhabitants of Kingston, and that almost peculiar to the locality is the annual *Foot Ball* kicking on Shrove Tuesday. Though this sport is still most vigorously persisted in among the lower orders, its origin is lost in obscurity.<sup>b</sup>

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<sup>b</sup> There is a popular tradition, handed down for the last four hundred years among the inhabitants of Kingston, that this game is commemorative of a defeat sustained by the Danes at the hands of the townsmen of Kingston during the celebration of their Shrovetide sports: and that the Captain of the Danish forces having been slain, and his head kicked about by the people in derision, the custom of kicking a Foot Ball on the

On the morning of Shrove Tuesday the houses in and about the Market-place are closed, and the windows barricaded: so that, to a stranger, the place appears almost in a state of siege. Two rival companies of men collect about the Druid's Head Inn in the Market-place; and at eleven o'clock the Foot Ball is started. The sport continues with much spirit during the day; one party endeavouring to kick the Ball to the Great Bridge and the other party to Clattern Bridge; at five o'clock the game ceases and all parties adjourn to talk of their exertions, and to enter on the business of another year with a firm determination to renew their riotous sport on the next anniversary of their forefathers' prowess.<sup>c</sup>

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#### THE BRIDGE.

At the time of the Roman Invasion the chief or only ford across the Thames was at Kingston: and the emperor Claudius is said to have constructed a Bridge here for the safer and more commodious passage of the river. This Bridge was of wood, as were most of the Roman bridges at that time; and stood much lower down the river than the present structure: probably half a mile below the modern Town.

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anniversary of that day has been observed ever since. This tradition was given in evidence before Baron Hotham about sixty years ago, when several of the townspeople were indicted for their riotous conduct on the occasion and were acquitted on the ground of their having only observed an immemorial custom. DR. WILLIAM ROOTS is, however, of opinion that, as the custom obtains in several other towns, a different origin must be sought for it: and observes that *Hock*, or *Hoke* is a Danish word expressive of Joy, and that among the many words introduced during the Danish supremacy in the island, this, which was intimately connected with jubilees, was one. Hocktide, in the Dr.'s. opinion, is synonymous with Shrovetide and, he quotes in support of this opinion, Salmon the Historian, who says "that *Hock Tuesday* was the day on which the Danes are said to have been generally massacred throughout England," adding that it is very reasonable to suppose a connexion between the head of the Danish Chief slain by the townsmen of Kingston and the Foot Ball Sport taking place at the same time. However this may be it seems more than probable that as Hocktide is generally placed in the week following Easter, at which time the general massacre of the Danes occurred, and our Foot Ball flies some weeks before, those who trace its origin to a more *local* event than a *general* massacre are correct in their assumption.

<sup>c</sup> In the year 754 or 755 Kenulf, king of one of the petty Saxon tribes, allured by the beauty of a Maid to Merton, was treacherously slain there by Kynard. In revenge for his death the Kingston people armed and hastened to the spot, where they signally defeated the forces of the assassin and carried off his head in triumph. It is probable that the sport of Foot Ball in Kingston originated with *this* or some similar event. The inhabitants having carried off the head of the defeated Chief and being attacked by his followers, a skirmish would naturally take place on the spot where the game is celebrated: the victors striving to retain possession of their trophy and to carry it to their stronghold, then situated north of the Great Bridge; while the followers of the vanquished Chief would endeavour to recover his remains and carry them beyond the Town Ditch at Clattern Bridge.

When the Saxons destroyed the Roman Thamesa and built Moreford on the banks of the river, they removed the Bridge to a more convenient site, opposite their newly erected Town. And, from the inartificial character of the structure as it existed at the beginning of the present century, it may be fairly supposed that, though the Bridge was frequently damaged, partially destroyed, and repaired, its plan if not its very framework remained in its original state until the time of its final demolition in 1828.

The custody of this Bridge and the care of keeping it in repair was committed by Henry III to Henry de St. Alban and Matthew Fitz Jeffery de Kingston; with a special command that the Bailiffs of the town and the Sheriffs of the county were to furnish such materials as should be necessary for maintaining it in an efficient state of repair. Henry subsequently ordered the Sheriff to give Matthew de Kingston possession of a house belonging to the Bridge and all the charters, &c. belonging to the same.

John Lovekyn, in 1368, left £10 for repairing the abutments.

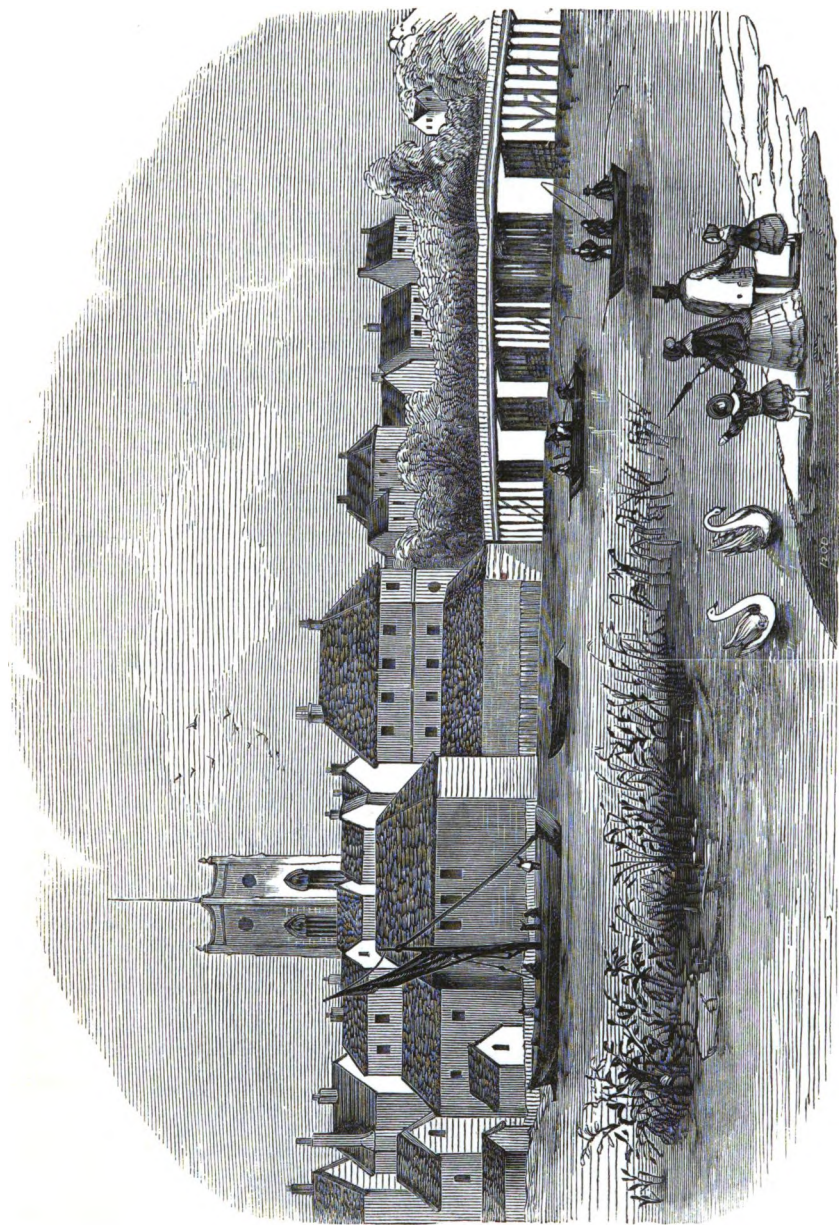
Edward III, by letters patent, vested the custody of the Bridge and Causeway, then gone to ruin and decay, in the Bailiffs of the town for fifty-one years, with a power to Hugh Taverner and John Waigne (probably Bailiffs) and their successors to take tolls upon the said Bridge for ten years.

Soon after the expiration of this licence, viz. in the 27th of Henry VI, the Bridge, having again fallen into a very dilapidated condition, Henry granted the Bailiffs the custody of it and the tolls to be received upon it for another term of fifty-one years: subject only to the supervision of John Merston, esq., and his heirs, lords of the manor of Horton in Epsom.

As lords of the manor of Kingston the Bailiffs and Freemen appropriated the rents of such portions of the towing path as lie within the manor and of certain ayots in the river; and about one-fifth of these rents were for a long series of years applied to the repairing of the Old Bridge. In addition to the sum thus realized for so necessary a purpose, the following gifts were at different times left to the Bridge Estate.

Richard Clark, by indenture dated November 4, in the 7th year of Henry VIII, conveyed a messuage in Kingston to Thomas Cheverall and Thomas Robinson, the Bridgewardens, &c. for the "repairs of the Great Bridge."

Hugh Stephynson, of East Greenwich, by indenture dated 5th January, 11th of Henry VIII conveyed, in consideration



VIEW OF KINGSTON, FROM THE RIVER, BEFORE THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WOODEN BRIDGE.

*By permission, from an original in the possession of Mr. Strange.*



for £5, two messuages and three gardens and their appurtenances in Kingston, opposite Clattering Bridge, for the "repair of the Great Bridge."

Clement Milam's gift to the Fraternity of the Holy Trinity was, in the 4th year of Edward VI conveyed, in compliance with the provisions of Milam's will, to the Trustees of the Bridge, for its necessary repair.

The rents and emoluments of about forty perches of water in two fish wears in the Thames were granted to the Bridge Estate by Philip and Mary in 1556.

Robert Hamonde, of Hampton, Bailiff of Kingston, granted all his lands in Harmondsworth to the Corporation of the town of Kingston, on condition that they should bestow 30s. yearly arising therefrom on the repairs of the Bridge, "to the intent that every person might pass over the said Bridge freely." the residue of the rents being reserved for the purposes specified in the will.<sup>d</sup>

Two years after, Robert the son of the testator, in consideration of 20 marcs, conveyed to the Corporation the lands at Harmondsworth, with others at Iver in Bucks, to the intent that the Bridge should henceforth be toll-free for ever: and the fact was recorded on the railing of the Bridge in the following distich

1565 "Robert Hamon, gentleman, Bayliff of Kingston heretofore  
"He then made this Bridge toll-free for evermore."

The rents of the Bridge Estate in or about the year 1821 were thus stated in the Report of the Commissioners for enquiring about Charities.

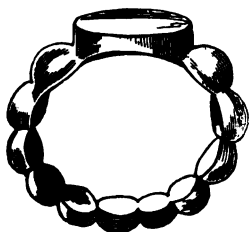
	£	s.	d.
1.—One-fifth of the rents received from the City of London for the use of the Towing Path .....	35	0	0
2.—One-fifth of the rents of Ayots .....	6	8	0
3.—Reserved rents on certain Premises at various times granted in fee, or let at long leases for a consideration .....	14	15	4
Also a sum reserved out of the rent of Lands at Hersham purchased by the Corporation .....	1	11	0
4.—A reserved rent, upon a Tenement in Thames-street, amounting to ..	10	0	0
5.—The rent of the Bridge Barn .....	10	10	0
6.—A yearly rent of £2 reserved upon nine acres of Land called Latchmere, let on lease to B. Barnard, esq., of Ham (for which that gentleman paid a consideration of £450, and which sum was expended upon the repair of the Bridge) .....	2	0	0
7.—The proceeds of Hamonde's Gift at Harmondsworth .....	57	0	0
8.—The rents of Lands at Kingston purchased in exchange for those at Iver ..	25	5	0
9.—A portion of rent from Schoolwardens .....	1	0	0
Making a total income of .....	£163	9	4

<sup>d</sup> The revenue of the Bridge was at this time about £25 per annum including tolls. In 1374 it was £53 10s.; in 1605 £61 2s. 6d.; in 1791 £130.

Notwithstanding the annual expenditure of so large a sum in the repairs of this ancient structure, the frequent occurrence of floods and the destructive frosts in the early part of the present century had so materially injured the Bridge that it became necessary on several occasions to mortgage portions of the Estate, in order to meet extraordinary demands; and between the years 1812 and 1821 no less a sum than £2460 had been laid out in endeavours to maintain the roadway: and the Bridge finally became so ruinous and inconvenient as to render a more permanent structure desirable. An act was consequently obtained in 1825 for the re-building of the Bridge and for making suitable approaches thereto.

The present elegant structure was erected from a design by Mr. Lapidge, and consists of five semi-elliptical arches over the water and two small brick arches on each side of the river for the passage of extraordinary flood waters. The spring of the arches is from the height of the highest flood on record. The width of the water-way is 334 feet, the span of the centre arch 60 feet, and its height 24 feet. The width of the roadway is 25 feet 6 inches, and the entire length of the Bridge 382 feet. The amount of the contract for its erection was £26800, and the total expense, including the purchase of the site and the approaches was £40000, which sum was advanced by the Commissioners for issuing Exchequer Bills, at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. interest.

The first stone of this Bridge was laid on the 7th of November, 1825, by the late earl of Liverpool, High-Steward of the Borough, and, after some trifling delay caused by the falling in of one of the dry arches in consequence of the premature removal of the centring, the Bridge was opened on July 17, 1828; soon after which the venerable Old Wooden Bridge which had seen so many vicissitudes of fortune was totally demolished.\*



\* The BRONZE RING which is here delineated was discovered nearly seven feet deep, in the blue clay, on digging the coffer dam for the New Bridge at Kingston, and came into the immediate possession of Dr. William Roots, who afterwards gave it to his friend Edward Jesse, esq.

"From the circumstance of this very ancient ring having been discovered in the bed of the Thames, at the same time and in close proximity with other relics, mostly of a warlike description, and chiefly Roman, it was at first supposed to have been one of those thumb rings known to have been in frequent use with Roman soldiery, and which were frequently formed of bronze, or sometimes of iron, those of gold or silver being confined to the use of Patricians or the Prætorian bands; but on a closer examination, it has been thought to belong to the mediæval period, and from the



The tolls are annually let by auction and the average amount received is £1950. The rent of the Bridge Estate is now about £100. The sum of £150 is annually expended in repairs and other necessities, and by the application of the remainder after the payment of interest, to the liquidation of the debt, that amount is now reduced to £36650.

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#### CLATTERN BRIDGE

Otherwise Clattering Bridge is situated at the southern extremity of the town and crosses the Hog's-mill stream which formerly constituted the boundary and defence of Kingston on that side.

This Bridge has been twice widened and improved. The original Bridge was of stone, at a comparatively recent period it was widened in brick, and again in the present year it has been widened by the addition of several feet on the east side and improved by the substitution of an open iron railing in imitation of Saxon workmanship, in lieu of the old brick parapet. This alteration has much improved the approach to the town from the south.<sup>f</sup>

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### CHAPTER VI.

#### MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS. THE TOWN HALL, ETC.

There is no mention made of any building in Kingston specially devoted to Municipal purposes, prior to the reign of Elizabeth.

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number of its bosses to have been used and worn for monastic purposes. Rings of very similar character have been found with ten bosses, said to indicate ten *aves*, and some with eleven bosses, like the ring in question, indicating ten *aves* and a *Pater Noster*. There might have been but little hesitation in according with this opinion, had it not been that this ring was found in the immediate neighbourhood, and at such a depth, with *unquestionable Roman relics*, mixed with early British remains, of a date still farther antecedent to the middle ages."

<sup>f</sup> This Bridge as well as the Old Wooden Bridge over the Thames was frequently the scene of some merriment from the circumstance of there being affixed to it a machine for the punishment of refractory Scolds. The instrument of punishment is mentioned in the Register and other accounts as a Cucking Stool and consisted of a basket attached to a beam and suspended over the water. In this basket those turbulent women who did not understand the proper regulation of their tongues were, after due admonition, seated; and the Corporation servants forthwith proceeded to plunge them repeatedly beneath the water, until either they were thought sufficiently cooled, or were induced to promise amendment. This salutary operation has been performed within the memory of some persons now living and would probably be more effective and certainly far less expensive in quelling a few noisy voices of the present day than any length of imprisonment or amount of fine.

The Old Town Hall, in the decorative parts of which Elizabeth's name very frequently occurred, is supposed to have been erected in her reign, and subsequently improved and enlarged by queen Anne; it was a picturesque structure of red brick, consisting of a small room on the ground floor, (the remainder of the space under the upper floor being left for the market), of a large Court Room above, used by the Judge in the Nisi-prius Court during Assizes and of a smaller room used as a Grand Jury Room, and for the purposes of the Corporation at other times. The Judge of the Crown Court occupied the ground floor, which was enclosed for the occasion. The Records were kept in a small room above the Grand Jury Room.

The front of the building facing the south was adorned by a molten statue of Anne, now placed on the principal front of the new building: and the windows of the same side were decorated with stained glass which originally cost £16 8s. which with other specimens from different parts of the Old Hall have been removed to the new building.

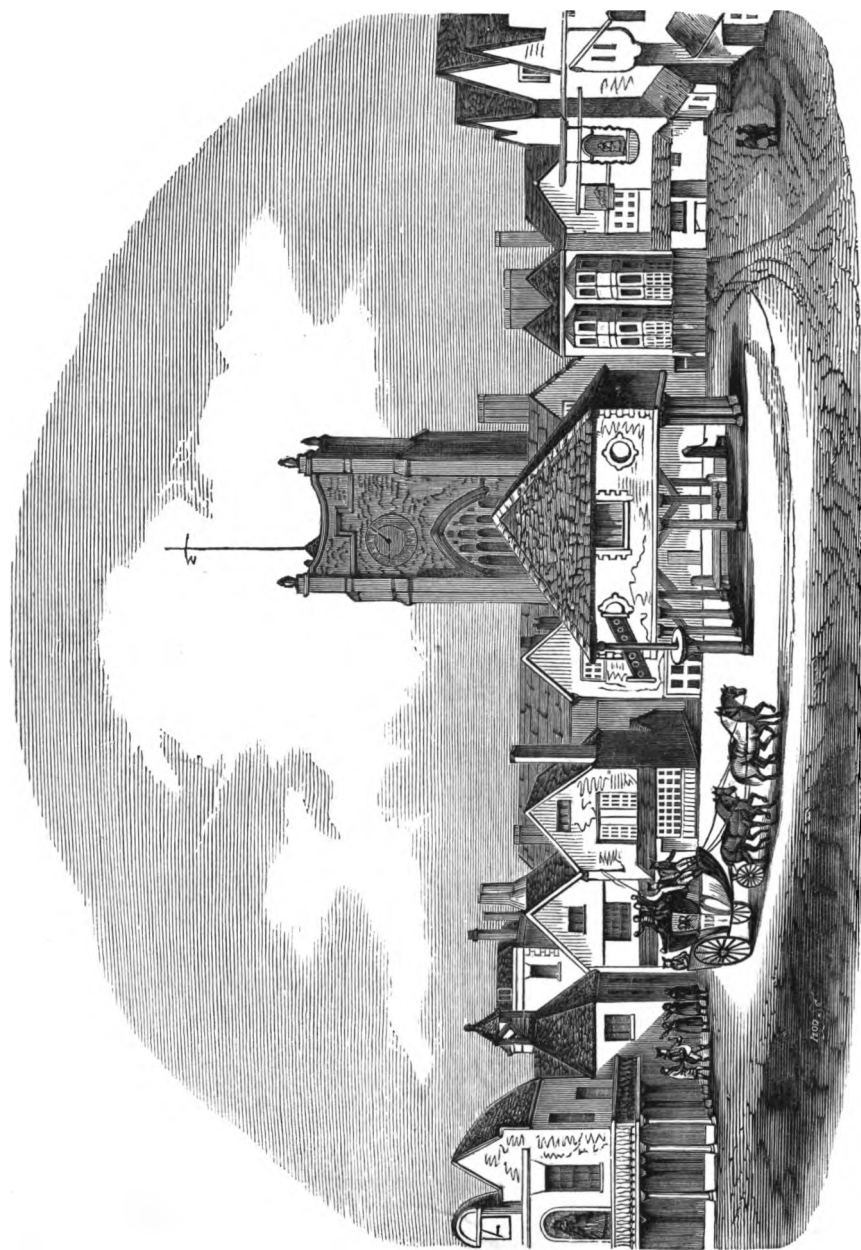
Near the old building stood, until September 6, 1796, another house used by the Town Clerk and which was removed in consequence of its obstructing the thoroughfare.<sup>s</sup>

The Old Hall becoming very dilapidated and the improvements made in Courts of Justice in other towns making the want of comfort here more striking the Judges on circuit made frequent complaints of the want of accommodation, and it consequently became necessary in 1811 to erect a New Court House.

The Corporation however not being prepared to sacrifice the venerable Old Hall, the erection of a new building for judicial purposes was decided on, and the New Courts were built at a cost of nearly £4000. These Courts stand near the south end of the Market-place and consist of two rectangular Courts each about 40 feet by 30, conveniently fitted up, and lighted from the roof. The two Courts are separated by a spacious hall, and communicate with the Grand Jury Room

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<sup>s</sup> The principal streets of Kingston have all been widened and modernized within the last fifty years. The old Entrance to the Town by the Bridge still remains as a solitary instance of the many inconveniences and dangers from which the town has been rescued. The sharp angle in the road from Old Bridge-street to the Horse-fair and Thames-street was a frequent scene of accident. The Market-place was almost unapproachable from the N.E. owing to the obstruction caused by the Town Clerk's Offices. Heathen-street was but a narrow lane, in which two carts could not pass; and Clattern Bridge was but 8 feet wide. Few towns indeed can boast of so many improvements made in so short a time.



### MARKET-PLACE, KINGSTON; IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

*From an original in the possession of Mr. Benjamin Looker.*

It was in the Hall represented above, that the ill-fated GEORGE BARNWELL was placed at the bar to take his trial for the wilful murder of his venerable Uncle in Camberwell-grove, before the Lord Chief Baron Bury, and Mr. Justice Powell, on Friday, October 18. 1706. He was found Guilty and hung in chains on Kennington-common.



which occupies the extreme end of the building. Under the Grand Jury Room are Cells for Prisoners.

The present Town Hall was erected from a design by Mr. C. Henman at a cost of about £4000.<sup>b</sup> It is built of a light-colored brick and dressed with stone, the upper portion being supported on columns and girders of cast iron from the foundry in the town. The statue of Queen Anne, the stained windows and market bell are remains of the old structure. On the principal floor is a large room used as a dining room, and occasionally for parish meetings, lectures, &c. This room is upwards of 40 feet long, nearly 30 feet wide, and lofty in proportion. The walls are decorated with paintings, viz:— a full-length portrait of Queen Anne by Kneller; a half-length of Thomas Evance, esq., the late Recorder, presented by his widow; and a full-length of C. N. Pallmer, esq., formerly of Norbiton-place, likewise presented by his widow. The stained glass removed from the Old Hall consists of armorial bearings arranged as follows:— In the

1st Pane.—The Royal Arms of England within the Garter, as depicted in the reign of James II.

2nd Pane.—The Prince of Wales's Feathers.

3rd Pane.—The Arms of Anne of Denmark, consort of James I, viz:— on the ground the Arms of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, the Goths, and Vandals;— on an Escutcheon in the centre quarterly the Arms of Sleswick, Holstein, Stormer and Ditzmers. Over all an Inescutcheon, Party per Pale for Oldenburgh and Dalmenhurst.—Supporters, two Savages wreathed about the loins and temples with Ivy, and bearing spiked clubs.

4th Pane.—The Arms of the Marquis of Hastings<sup>1</sup>, surrounded by the Garter.

5th Pane.—The Royal Arms of James I within a Garter, and with his motto, "Beati Pacifici." Under it is this inscription:—

"The Atchievement of our Sovereigne King James, as he nowe beareth, with the Armes of the severall Kings that have aunciently reigned within his nowe Dominions."

Twenty-three small Shields surround the Royal Arms, and are described as the armorial bearings of the Roman Empire, the Heathen Britons, Christian Britons, Kentish Saxons, Heathen West Saxons, Christian West Saxons, South Saxons, East Saxons, East Angles, Mercians, Northumberland, Danish Kings, Kings of Man, Cornish Kings, First Kings of Wales, Later do., Welsh Princes, Kings of Ireland, Kings of France, Kings of Scotland, Andegavian Kings, Later Saxon Monarchs, Norman Kings.

6th Pane.—The Arms of Kingston: with the date 1618.

7th Pane.—Quarterly, the Arms of Howard, Brotherton, Warren and Mowbray: being the Arms borne by Charles Howard, earl of Nottingham, High-Steward of Kingston in the time of Charles I.

8th Pane.—The Arms of Hatton. Robert Hatton being the Recorder between 1638 and 1660: Sir Richard Hatton from 1672 to 1676: and William Hatton was chosen to that office in 1676 on Sir Richard's decease.

<sup>b</sup> An Act was passed in 1808 by which the Bailiffs were empowered either to enlarge the Old Town Hall and Market House, or to pull them down and sell the materials, and to defray the further expense of enlarging or rebuilding by the sale of certain portions of Common and Waste Land then about to be enclosed and allotted to the Corporation by the said Act. But a large part of the sum required for the New Town Hall was raised by subscription.

<sup>1</sup> The connexion of this family with Kingston is not very intimate. William, lord

From the time of the restoration of its Charters in 1688 until the year 1835, the Borough of Kingston was governed by officers appointed under the powers of the Charter of 4th Charles I. These officers were

Two Bailiffs, elected<sup>1</sup> on the Saturday or Monday before Michaelmas-day.

A High-Steward, elected for life, by the Court of Assembly which consisted of the whole body Corporate.

A Recorder, also elected at a Court of Assembly, and who was obliged to be a Barrister.

Gownsmen, being Peers who had served as Bailiffs.

Peers, such members of the body Corporate as had been voted out of the body of Fifteens: two being so voted out in each year.

Fifteens, so called from their number. Two persons were annually elected from the Free Tenants of the Manor to serve the office of Ale-Conner, and these became members of the body of Fifteens, to supply the place of those elected to the Peerage.

The Free Tenements of the Manor were 503 in number and the Free Tenants 273, at the time of the Parliamentary enquiry before the passing of the Municipal Act; but the number of Freemen was only 57.

The Bailiffs were Justices of the Peace during their year of office and one year subsequently, Judges of the Court of Record and Presidents of the Court Baron, and Clerks of the Market in the Town and Hundreds of Kingston and Elmbridge. Their salary was not equal to the expenses of the office.

The Recorder was a Justice of the Peace and presided at the Sessions, and was Steward of the Court Leet; his salary being about £35 a year.

The Fifteens were all Constables and liable to serve throughout the Hundred during their time of office.

<sup>1</sup> Hastings, was Lord High Chamberlain and witnessed Edward the Fourth's Charter to the Town, and was the only member of the Hastings family who ever wore the Garter, being knighted in 1461.

<sup>2</sup> The election of the Bailiffs had been conducted for three hundred years in the following manner. The Fifteens met in their own room and wrote the names of the Gownsmen who were Candidates upon a sheet of paper, which was then placed in a distant part of the room; and each man gave his vote by marking with a pen the name of the person whom he wished elected. The four Candidates whose names bore the highest number of marks, were thus nominated, and the Bailiffs with the High-Steward and Recorder selected one of the four as senior Bailiff for the ensuing year, the rest of the Gownsmen choosing the junior by majority. The person selected was subject to a fine of £30 for refusing office.

The Freemen and Free Tenants were all exempt from serving as jurors otherwise than in the Courts of the Manor, and were exempt from payment of toll throughout the kingdom. The latter privilege does not appear to have been exercised.

The officers of the Corporation were

The Steward of the Court, who was the Attorney General at the time being, and who received a fee equivalent to about £10 a year.

The Town Clerk, elected for life by the Court of Assembly. He was the law adviser of the Corporation, Clerk of the Peace, and Prothonotary of the Court of Record and Clerk of the Court Baron and Court Leet. The profits of this office amounted to about £200 a year.

Two Coroners, of whom the Town Clerk was usually one and the junior Bailiff the other. The office was exercised throughout the Hundreds of Kingston and Elmbridge.

Two Bridgewardens, elected yearly: and serving without emolument.

Two Schoolwardens, also elected annually to visit and superintend the Schools; also without salary.

Two Ale-Conners who likewise acted as searchers of weights and measures, and examiners of food offered for sale at the markets.

Two Chamberlains, elected annually, to receive all the regular rents due to the Corporation, to make payments and keep the accounts: without salary or emolument.

A Collector of rents and tolls: appointed by the Court and paid by a commission on the amount collected.

Three Serjeants at Mace appointed by the Court to execute the processes of the Court of Record. Their fees amounted to about £60.

A Hall-Keeper, or general attendant on the Court: who received a coat and hat and £20 a year.

And two Mace Bearers, appointed by the Court, with a salary of £5.

Under the Municipal Corporation Act Kingston is now divided into three Wards and governed by a Mayor, six Aldermen and eighteen Common Councillors, who, with the

High-Steward, Recorder, Town Clerk, &c. and the Burgesses, or inhabitant Ratepayers of three years' standing, constitute the present Corporation under the style and title of the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of Kingston-upon-Thames.\*

The Custody of the Peace within the Town is now entrusted to a division of the Metropolitan Police, which is maintained here at a great expense: and the duties of the officers of the Corporation together with the privileges of the body have been much reduced and abridged by the recent alteration of its constitution.

The average income and expenditure of the Corporation, before the passing of the Municipal Corporation Act, was as follows:—

Income.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Received from Land and Houses	212	12 0	SALARIES.		
Towing Path and Aits	207	0 0	Bailiffs.....	173	10 0
Bridge Wharf.....	12	13 4	High-Steward.....	9	0 0
Fee-Farm Rents	33	14 10	Recorder.....	35	11 0
Tolerations <sup>1</sup>	52	0 0	Steward of Court	11	7 0
Tolls	150	0 0	Collectors	30	0 0
Quit Rents	32	0 0	Hall-Keeper	25	0 0
Fines, &c.....	10	0 0	Mace Bearers.....	5	0 0
Bailiffs' Fees	8	0 0	Gaoler.....	10	0 0
Do. for use of Seal.....	1	10 0			
			GENERAL PAYMENTS.		
			Interest on Debt	64	10 0
			Repairs, Town Clerk's Bill,		
			Bridge Acct., Rates, Taxes,	355	12 2
			Insurance, &c. &c.....		
	<u>£719</u>	<u>10 2</u>		<u>£719</u>	<u>10 2</u>

At the present time the account stands thus:—

Income.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
From Land and Houses	150	12 0	SALARIES.		
Towing Path and Aits	150	10 0	Town Clerk	100	0 0
Bridge Wharf.....	38	0 0	Treasurer	20	0 0
Fee-Farm Rents	6	10 0	Collector	45	0 0
Quit Rents	18	0 0	Hall-Keeper	20	0 0
Tolls	150	0 0	Mace Bearers.....	5	0 0
			Tipstaff	2	10 0
			Inspector of Markets	5	0 0
			GENERAL PAYMENTS.		
			Interest on Aits	50	0 0
			Repairs, Bridge Account, Rate,		
			Taxes, Insurance, Trades-	266	2 0
			men's Bills, &c.....		
	<u>£513</u>	<u>12 0</u>		<u>£513</u>	<u>12 0</u>

\* The names of those persons who have filled the chief offices in the town are given in the appendix.

<sup>1</sup> Sums paid by Tradesmen for permission to trade.



Much of the property belonging to the Corporation has from time to time been alienated to meet extraordinary demands. In the twenty years previous to 1832 property to the amount of £5372 13s. had been thus sold:<sup>m</sup> and the proceeds devoted to the erection of the New Courts at an expense of £3800 8s., a Debtor's Gaol £1000, and the balance £572 5s. was appropriated to the general purposes of the Corporation.

In the year 1826 a sum of £300 was raised upon the tolls and expended on the improvement of the market.

In 1833 the Towing-path and other lands were mortgaged for a sum of £1100 at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Of this sum £400 was applied to the purchase of certain tenements in Heathen-street which have been since removed for the widening and improvement of that entrance to the town. £100 was laid out upon the Grammar School, and the remainder in the purchase of £700 three per cent. stock to replace funds belonging to the Trustees of Tiffin's, Smith's and Belitha's Charities, which had been on some previous occasion used by the Corporation for their own purposes.

The Revenue of the Corporation as stated above is derivable principally from the following sources:—

Fee-Farm Rents.

Quit Rents due to the Corporation as Lords of the Manor.

Rents of several Lands belonging to the Corporation ; of the House called Clattern House, adjoining the New Courts ; of the Aytes in the River ; of the Towing-path ; of the Bridge Wharf, &c.

Tolls of the Market and Fairs.

Fines levied on Offenders within the Hundreds of Kingston and Elmbridge.

The Saturday Market<sup>n</sup> for Corn, Vegetables, Meat and Miscellaneous Wares is tolerably well attended. (The Corn is sold by sample only.)

The Wednesday Market granted by Charles II has been long disused ; though a few stalls have been occasionally erected within the last few years.

<sup>m</sup> Amongst this property was the Bowling Green, situated at the back of the house now Dr. William Root's residence, and near the spot at which the conduit pipes from Combe pass under the Thames. This piece of ground, not quite two acres, was sold for £735.

<sup>n</sup> The liberties of this Market extend by Charter to a distance of seven miles. This liberty was granted on petition of the people of Kingston, after considerable expenses had been incurred, in consequence of the grant of a Saturday's Market to Hounslow.

Three Fairs are held in the course of the year, viz:—on the Thursday after Whit-Sunday when a few Cattle and Horses are exposed for sale;—on the 2nd and 3rd of August, when the principal article sold is the Black Cherry, whence the Fair is called Black Cherry Fair:—and on the 13th and eight following days in November.

The latter Fair is well established and frequented by all the neighbouring population. In the large open arable field called the Fair-field and in several adjoining meadows some thousand heads of Cattle, and many Sheep, Horses and Pigs are annually sold: in the Horse-fair, at the back of Clarence-street (the New Street leading from the Bridge towards London) and in the London-road itself there is frequently a brisk market for Horses; while the country people who attend the Fair for amusement find an ample supply in a forest of booths erected in the Market-place.

The *House of Correction* situated in Heathen-street, was a collection of brick buildings surrounded by a lofty wall and comprising twelve sleeping wards, two working rooms, a chapel, kitchen, bakehouse, &c. with three airing yards and abundant room for additional erections should they ever have become necessary. On the completion of the County Prison at Wandsworth, an order was issued by the Justices of the Peace in General Quarter Sessions assembled at Newington, in pursuance of which the prisoners in Kingston Bridewell were removed, and the House was closed on January 17, 1852. And it is probable that the Prison, lately the abode of smugglers and other delinquents, will be pulled down and the site disposed of for building purposes.

The Town Gaol or Debtor's Prison is a modern erection separated from the New Courts by a small yard. The number of prisoners is small, and the Keeper lives in the house rent and tax free, receiving also a small salary.

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## CHAPTER VII.

## CHARITIES.—CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

*Lovekyn's Chapel.*—The Chapel of St. Mary Magdalen:  
now the

## GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Edward Lovekyn, a native of Kingston, who obtained considerable wealth as a merchant in London, founded a Chapel, in 1306 in his native place, to the honor of Mary Magdalen; and on its completion in 1309, he and his brother Robert endowed it with ten acres of arable land, one acre of meadow, and 5 marcs per annum, for the maintenance of a Chaplain to perform divine service every day in the same for the souls of the Founder, his family and all faithful people deceased. This grant was confirmed by letters patent, and a Chaplain duly appointed by permission of the Bishop.

John Lovekyn, a son of one of the above, and four times Mayor of London, rebuilt the Chapel and adjoining mansion and, for the improvement of the Foundation and the maintenance of another Chaplain granted the following estates, viz:—nine messuages, ten shops, a mill, one hundred and twenty-five acres of arable land, ten acres of meadow, one hundred and twenty acres of pasture, and 35s. per annum from rents arising in Kingston; also two messuages in the parish of St. Michael, Crooked-lane, London, of the yearly value of £4. He also framed a set of provisions and regulations for the due government of the New Foundation, directing that one of the two Chaplains should be perpetual Custos or Warden of the Chapel, and should preside over such other Chaplain or Chaplains as might be received on the increase of the revenues of the Chapel: that the appointment of Chaplains should rest in the Bishop of Winchester, the Chapter of Winchester, or the Archbishop of Canterbury: that the Chaplains should *reside*, and should hold no other appointment:° that no person should be introduced by the subordinate Chaplains to *dine* at the expense of the Chapel; but that for every such meal the Chaplain offending should pay 3*d.*, and for any other meal so given 2*d.*; that the Chaplains should not frequent taverns, &c.

° These particulars are of no other interest now than as illustrating the fact that Pluralities and Non-residents were felt as grievances more than five hundred years ago.

The Bishop of Winchester provided, by the addition of other statutes, that no parishioner of Kingston, except the Founder of the Chaplaincies, should absent himself from the Parish Church to attend the services held at St. Magdalen's; and that the Chaplains should in no way interfere with the duties and privileges of the Vicar. It was, however, in consequence of some jealousies that arose between the Vicar and the Chaplains on account of offerings made by certain persons at the Chapel instead of at the parish Church, and to prevent such jealousies in future, that Lovekyn<sup>p</sup> gave to the Vicar the manse mentioned before<sup>q</sup> in lieu of such offerings as his parishioners might prefer making at St. Magdalen's.

William Walworth, the Lord Mayor of London during Wat Tyler's rebellion, had been an apprentice of John Lovekyn; and augmented the Charity in 1371 by the donation of "one mill, one dovecote, sixty-eight and a half acres of arable land, sixteen of meadow, forty-four of pasture, twelve of wood, pasture for ten oxen, four mares with foals, one hundred sheep, with 34s. 3d. annual rent in Kingston and Talworth; and also the reversion of two shops, one garden and the moiety of a messuage in Kingston after the death of Mabil late wife of William Watyn." This augmentation was made for the support of another Chaplain.

The last Custos or Warden was Charles Carew, of the family of the Carews of Beddington, who was attainted for high treason, and died in 1540; when the Chapel and all its endowments were seized by the King.

Upon the petition of the Freemen of Kingston, Queen Elizabeth granted by letters patent, dated the 1st of March, in the third year of her reign, that "there should be one Grammar School in the town of Kingston-upon-Thames, which should be called the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, for the education, teaching and instruction of boys and children in the grammar, for ever in future" and ordered that there should be one master and one under master for ever; the Bailiffs for the time being to be the Governors of the possessions, revenues and goods of the said School, and for the use of the Grammar School Queen Elizabeth gave the lands, &c. formerly part of the Chapel estate, viz: all that Free Chapel with the appurtenances, called Mary Magdalen Chapel,

<sup>p</sup> This John Lovekyn rebuilt the Church of St. Michael's, Crooked-lane, as it stood till the Fire of London. He died August 4, 1368, and was buried in the Church of St. Michael.

<sup>q</sup> See page 51.

in Norbiton, and one garden lying next the said Chapel on the east side thereof, and one other little Chapel called St. Anne Chapel, with the appurtenances, joining the said Free Chapel, and one chamber covered with lead, over the said Chapel called St. Anne Chapel, and one little study within the said Chapel, also one other inner chamber, with one hawk's mewe over the same, and a certain little Chapel in the same place called St. Loye's Chapel, on the south side of the said Chapel called Mary Magdalen Chapel, and one little place under the said Chapel, and one old kitchen, and a certain chamber adjoining the said kitchen, and one upper room called a loft over the said kitchen and chamber, and one other chamber under the said kitchen, on the west side of the said Chapel called Mary Magdalen Chapel, and situated over the footway leading from the said town of Kingston towards London, and one dwelling next the said kitchen, also one yard on the north side of the said Chapel called Mary Magdalen Chapel, and one other yard on the west side of the said Chapel, and one place for walking in called a gallery over the said yard, and leading from the chamber over the said Chapel called St. Anne Chapel, to a certain little place, and two chambers called the master's lodging, and one cellar and four small chambers under the master's lodging, and a certain end of a certain barn, with a partition at the west end from an old barn in the same place, and a certain stable, situated on the west end of the said barn, and one dovecote: all which premises were situate in Norbiton." Her Majesty granted these premises to the governors for ever to hold of her in free socage, by fealty only. And further she granted to the said governors and their successors "that they, with the advice of the Bishop of Winchester for the time being, should have full power and authority of nominating and appointing the master and under master of the said School, as often as" their places "should become vacant; also that the same governors, with the advice of the Bishop of Winchester, should make fit and salutary written statutes and ordinances for the ordering governing and direction of the master and under master of the School, for the time being, and the stipend and salary of the said master and under master, and other things touching and concerning the said School, and the ordering, governing, preservation and disposal of the rents and revenues appointed and to be appointed, for the maintenance thereof." Permission was also granted for the purchase or receipt of lands, &c.

within the kingdom so that the same did not exceed the clear annual value of £30, besides the premises above-named.

Three years after this grant the Queen gave to the Corporation, for the benefit of the School, the following lands and tenements part of the estates of the Carthusian Priory in London, consisting of the George Inn with a garden and barn in the Back-lane of Kingston, near an old corn mill; a close of land, about six acres, between Hog's-mill and the lands called the Bittern (Bittoms); an acre of arable land called the Tenter-acre, in Tenter-field; eleven tenements, three gardens and a barn, containing together about eighty acres, with the appurtenances belonging thereto, excepting the timber: also certain lands once belonging to the Priory at Merton, viz:— a toft of half an acre, called Dragger's Toft, then recently built upon; with six acres of arable land and another rood belonging thereto, of which three acres were in Combe-field, one acre and some little pieces in that part of Little-field called Brook-furlong, one acre at the Chapel-style in the same field, another acre in three several pieces in the same field, and the rood in a field called Thystlung's close; *also*, the following quit rents, viz: from certain lands held at that time by Richard Taverner 36s. annually; from the Crane Inn 4s.; from a tenement then occupied by George Snelling, senior, 1s. 6d.; from lands at Gadbridge near Berefield, in Kingston 6d.; from a tenement occupied by William Collins at Norbiton (now Norbiton-hall) 1s. 8d.; from a tenement occupied by Henry Grover in Kingston 8d.; from two Inns, the Ostrich Feathers and the Vine 5s.; from a tenement occupied by William Bayer 3s.; from one in the hands of Hawkins' heirs 1s. 3d.; from W. Stevens' tenement 5s.; from Benson's 1s. 8d.; from a tenement held by the heirs of Augustine Skern 7s.; from a house in the Market-place occupied by John Robinson 3s.; from a tenement in Talworth 4s.; *also* three parcels of land formerly belonging to the Chapel itself in Kingston and then occupied by George Snelling, John Sepham and John Robinson, and a cottage in Gigg-hill-street; *also* a tenement and about two acres of land in Ham formerly belonging to the Monastery at Shene; *also* all the woods, underwoods and trees on any of the foregoing premises.

The terms on which these lands were conveyed to the Corporation were the following—that they should pay to her Majesty's account the sum of £18 9s. 7d. as a fee-farm rent, and to the School account 20 marcs, yearly.

A small portion only of this property is now in the possession of the Corporation, and the rent in fee has not been paid for more than two hundred years. But as a larger sum than that intended by Queen Elizabeth appears to have been always devoted by the Corporation to the service of the School, although a portion of Elizabeth's grant has been at some time alienated; it would be ungenerous as well as useless to institute any enquiry into the precise extent of the endowment while the Founder's intentions are well carried out and no blame attaches, to any person living, for the alienation of property now irrecoverable.

The present rental of the Grammar School Estate is thus stated:—

Leasehold Rents .....	£71	3	11	per annum.
Fee-Farm Rents.....	20	13	9	
Quit Rents .....	2	9	6	
	<hr/>			
	£94	7	2	
	<hr/>			

This School obtained considerable celebrity about a hundred years ago, under the able management of Mr. Woodeson, who was obliged to hire another house<sup>r</sup> in consequence of the large number of scholars placed under his instruction. The scholars under Mr. Woodeson's care varied in number from eighty to one hundred, and consisted of members of aristocratic families alone, who not only claimed none of the privileges of the School as a Free Endowed School, but in the only case in which those privileges were claimed, so maltreated the unfortunate youth whose father had the temerity to seek those advantages, that he was *mercifully* removed, and thus the intentions of the Royal Founder were for a time entirely frustrated.

Under the next two masters, the number of scholars materially decreased, so that the Foundation Building was found sufficient for the purposes of the School; but the scholars were for many years none but scions of the aristocracy: and it was only towards the end of the last century that any effectual steps were taken for restoring the School to its original character: and when the town finally triumphed over this invasion of its privileges, the School, under Mr. Wilson, at length fell into utter disuse.

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<sup>r</sup> The house occupied by Mr. Woodeson was afterwards purchased by the inhabitants of Kingston and used as the Parish Workhouse until the construction of the present Union House. It stood on the north side of the road at the foot of Kingston-hill, opposite Combe-lane, and had been, before Mr. Woodeson occupied it, the residence of Archbishop Tillotson. See Hertington Combe *postea*.

Among the celebrated persons educated at this School in its palmy days were Gibbon the historian; George Alexander Stevens, George Keate, and Edward Lovibond, poets; George James Cholmondeley and his relative the late Marquis of Cholmondeley.

The present Governors of the School, the Charity Trustees of Kingston, have, with the concurrence and advice of the Bishop of Winchester, thrown the School open to boys from eight to fifteen years of age, whose parents are rate-payers of the town and parish; and it is governed by rules agreed upon December 31, 1841. The scholars pay one guinea a quarter, and it is intended that they should be instructed in English grammar, writing, arithmetic, accounts, geography, map drawing, mathematics, Latin and Greek, and the principles of religion according to the doctrines inculcated by the Established Church.

The present master, the Rev. W. Rigg, is a scholar of high attainments, well fitted for his position; and one who under favorable circumstances may restore the credit of the School, without injuring its usefulness as a Foundation for the benefit of the townspeople.

A number of gentlemen, formerly educated here, have lately contributed for the improvement of the building, and the convenience of the School-room has been much increased, and the comfort of the master enhanced by alterations very judiciously made.

#### SCHOOLMASTERS.

John Laurence .....		Mr. Cooke .....	1656
Roger Foster .....	1566	Dr. Hooker (half the year).....	1663
Stephen Chatfield .....	1573	Mr. Parkhurst (the other half) .....	"
Mr. Kerton .....	1584	Mr. Rowell .....	1671
Mr. Whyting .....	1588	Rev. Robert Conwyn .....	1698
Mr. Corror .....	1596	Rev. Henry Winde .....	1702
Mr. Denneman .....	1599	Rev. Samuel Heming .....	1730
Mr. Hancocke .....	"	Rev. Richard Woodeson .....	1732
Mr. Beely .....	1609	Rev. John Griffiths .....	1772
Ambrose Richmond .....	1613	Rev. Hugh Laurents .....	1780
Henry Panton .....	1620	Rev. Thomas Wilson .....	1797
Thomas Tyro .....	1622	Rev. J. F. Stansbury .....	1834
Robert French .....	1626	Rev. William Rigg .....	1849
William Burton* .....	1637		

\* Mr. Burton was educated at St. Paul's School in London, and went afterwards to Queen's College, Oxford, where he became Greek Lecturer, and in 1630 took the degree of B.C.L. Straitened circumstances compelled him to leave Oxford and he accepted the situation of Assistant in the School of Mr. Farnabie at Sevenoaks: he had not been long in this situation when he was elected Master of the Free Grammar School at Kingston, which office he held till his death. He was the author of several learned works, the principal of which are a Commentary on Antonine's Itinerary, and Annotations on Clement's First Epistle to the Corinthians.



*Tiffin's Charity.*—Thomas Tiffin, by will, dated May 15, 1638, left £50 in trust to the Bailiffs and Freemen of Kingston, to the intent it should be laid out in the purchase of lands, tenements, &c., that with the annual rents thence accruing they might “yearly for ever, cause to be taught, in some good school, to write and cast accounts, such honest poor men’s sons, of the same town,” as the Bailiffs and the Town Clerk should think fit, “from ten years of age or thereabouts, until such time as they should be fit to be bound apprentice to some good trade or occupation, and to give £5 with each boy to some good master, that might teach him to get his living, and so from time to time for ever, as one should be bound out, to take and set one other to school as aforesaid.”

John Tiffin, by will, dated November 17, 1639, gave to the same parties and for the same purposes £100.

These two legacies were laid out in the purchase of about seventeen acres of ground, in West-field, which land, by indenture, dated October 28, 1645, was conveyed to the Bailiffs and Freemen upon the trusts expressed above.

Under the Kingston Inclosure Act, passed in 1808, an allotment of 1a. 0r. 33p. was awarded to this Charity.

This Charity also possesses the sum of £100 three per cent. consols, purchased in the year 1763 from savings, and the sum of £106 New South Sea Annuities, mentioned in 1764-5 as “Holford’s £100 South Sea Stock.”

The present income of Tiffin’s Charity is therefore £65 8s. which is employed in the clothing and instruction of poor boys.

The testators’ intention with respect to the apprenticeship of these scholars is rarely carried out.

*Brown’s Charity.*—Elizabeth Brown, by will, dated August 31, 1648, left a messuage in the parish of St. Bride’s, London, (formerly known as the Kendal Coffee House, but now leased to the Corporation of London and used as a Police Station) to her son, under conditions which eventually led to its conveyance to “the town of Kingston, a place and people eminently approved of for their industry and integrity in managing and improving charitable gifts and legacies, and the stock and other interests and concerns of the poor there.” This conveyance was made in December, 1668, upon the trusts declared in Mrs. Brown’s will, viz:—£5 part of the rent thereof yearly “by four quarterly usual payments to

some honest industrious poor woman, such as they (the Bailiffs and Freemen) should think fit, for the teaching and instructing of such poor inhabitants' children as should be of the town of Kingston, to read the English tongue and learn some orthodox catechism: and the remainder of the said rent to be yearly laid out for the maintenance and relief of poor godly ministers and other christians in want and necessity, and for buying books for poor scholars, and putting forth poor children as apprentices at the discretion of the Bailiffs and Freemen."† Any improved rent obtained for these premises was likewise to be employed for the same purposes.

The income of Mrs. Brown's Charity now amounting to £70 per annum is applied in the clothing and instruction of sixty poor boys and girls, and for putting out apprentices.

*Belitha's Charity.*—Edward Belitha, by will, dated March 26, 1717, left £400 to be laid out by the Bailiffs and Freemen of Kingston, in the purchase of lands and tenements near the town, that the yearly rents might be bestowed in "employing some honest reputable woman, a legal inhabitant of the said town, who should be able to read and work plain work well, to teach twenty poor persons' daughters of the said town to read and work plain work well"—the Bailiffs and Freemen to nominate the mistress as well as the scholars. The said sum of £400 was to remain in the hands of Edward Belitha's executor until the purchase of the lands, the executor paying interest for the money towards the expenses of the school which had been established in the testator's life time. William Belitha the executor paid interest at five per cent. until 1758, when the principal together with a balance of £20 12s. 6d. then in hand was laid out in the purchase of £500 three per cent. consols, in which stock it still remains, and the dividends are expended in the education of thirty children.

*Snelling's Charity.*—Mark Snelling, by will, dated February 21, 1633, devised to the Bailiffs and Freemen of Kingston, "all his freehold land in Hersham and Walton-on-Thames, upon trust, to apply the rents and profits thereof to the sole use and benefit of the poor of the said town of Kingston, in manner following, viz:— that the Bailiffs for

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† The Trustees are now appointed by the Lord Chancellor.

the time being should for ever, on the first Sunday in every month, provide and give to twenty such poor householders or widows dwelling in the said town" as they, the Churchwardens, &c. "should from time to time think fit, twenty sixpenny loaves of good household bread, and to each of the said poor people to whom the bread should be given 6*d.* together with the loaf of bread of 6*d.* price; and upon trust that the residue of the said rents and profits, over and above the £12 so to be given. . . . should be applied in providing yearly, for ever, so many sea coals as the residue of the rent would purchase, which coals he directed should be, by such officers as should be elected by the Bailiffs and Freemen into the office of charitable uses, distributed amongst such poor householders, and in such proportion as the Bailiffs, Churchwardens and Overseers, or the greater number of them, of whom the Bailiffs should be two, should think fit . . . . . one moiety within a month before and the other moiety within a month after Christmas-day."

The premises demised were

	A.	R.	P.
A Close of Arable Land containing .....	1	2	37
A Close of Meadow called Cox's Hall .....	0	1	14
Barn, two Stables and Farm Yard adjoining Hershams-street .....	0	1	3
A Close of Land adjoining and called Barn Close .....	3	1	30
Three Closes containing together .....	3	0	33
Several Closes of Arable Land .....	19	3	0
Meadow Land .....	4	2	37

The total quantity is estimated at 33a. 1r. 34p. and the rents amount to £80 10s. per annum.

The intention of the testator appears to be well carried out. The £12 is expended in bread and sixpences as directed; and the remainder of the income is laid out in coals which are sold to the poor in winter at a reasonable price.

*Hardinge's Charity.*—Nicholas Hardinge, by will, dated January 1710, gave to his cousin John Hardinge, and Gideon Hardinge, clerk, their heirs and assigns, certain fee-farm rents and all his estate therein arising from the manors of Lechlade and Blechden, and other lands in Gloucestershire, in trust, to apply the said rents, in putting out poor boys or girls of and in the parish of Kingston, to write, read and cast accounts, or to put out apprentices, and in clothing such children yearly with great outward coats only, during such time as such boys or girls should go to school, but not to give more than £5 to place any one out apprentice.

The rents now amount to about £29 yearly; augmented by a dividend of £9 15s. arising from £325 three per cent. consols purchased many years ago with a sum which had accumulated through a temporary interruption in the payment of the rents.

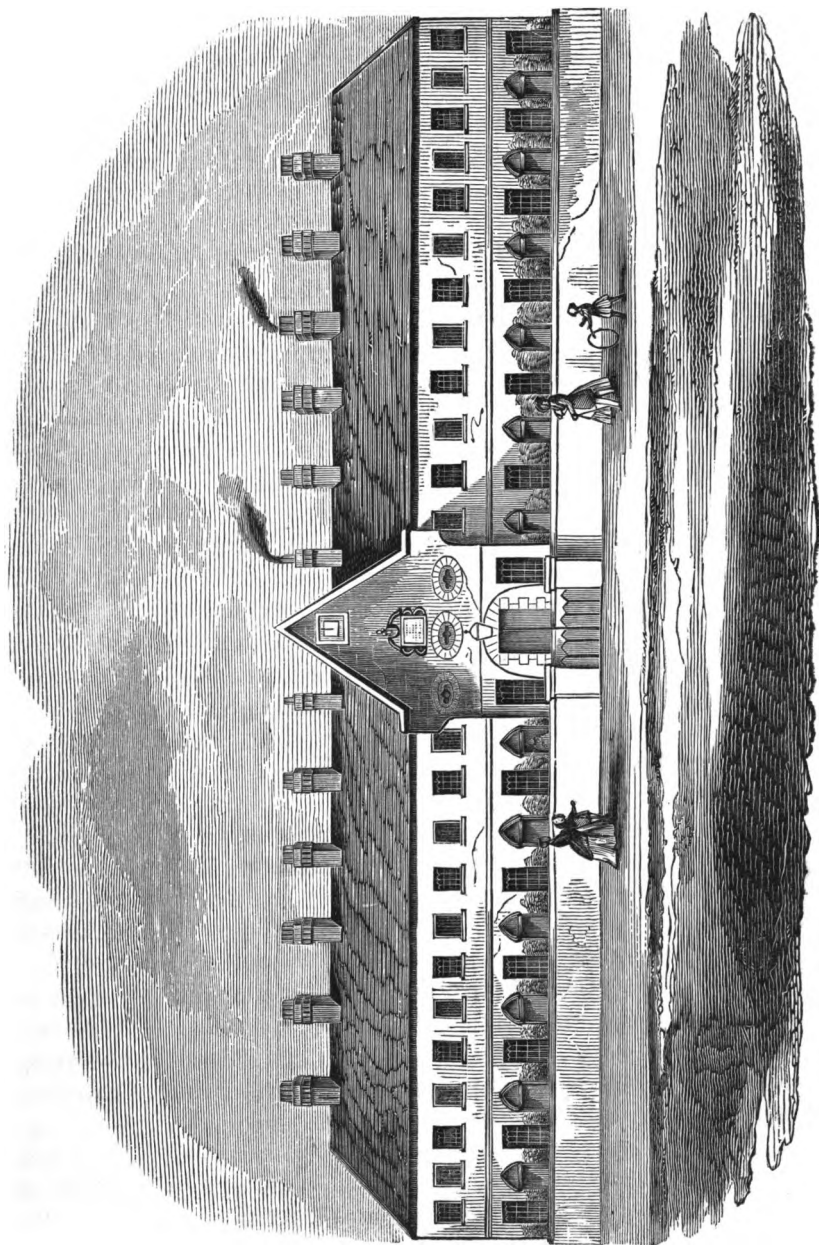
With this sum eight boys and eight girls are now *entirely* clothed, and £16 a year is paid to the master and mistress who instruct them.

*Cleave's Almshouses.*—William Cleave, by will, dated May 11, 1665, left to the Bailiffs, Freeman, &c. of Kingston, "all his messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments, and whatever else he had in the parish of Kingston, for the maintenance of twelve poor people of the said parish, for ever, viz:— six poor men and six poor women of honest life and reputation, the profits thereof to be equally divided amongst them; and none to be admitted but single persons, and above sixty years of age;" he also gave £500 for building a suitable Almshouse, and provided that, if the money were not so laid out within two years, or the profits of the lands, &c. so laid out, the property should revert to the Company of Haberdashers in London; he also stipulated that no lease of any of the lands should be granted for a longer term than twenty-one years.

The legacy of £500, with about £300 besides, arising from the rents, was received from William Cleave's executors in 1670 and was laid out in the purchase of about two acres of ground at Norbiton, and in the erection of the Almshouses.

In 1675 an acre of ground called Bull-acre, lying in the Marsh-field and intersecting some portions of the land bequeathed by Cleave, was purchased and added to the estate; and on an exchange of lands consequent upon the passage of the South-Western Railway through a portion of the property belonging to this Charity, the trustees purchased a few acres in addition to the portion received in exchange for the purposes of enhancing the value of the lands lying contiguous to the Railway.

The whole of the property appropriated for the maintenance of the almspeople consists of houses and lands in different parts of the parish, the annual rents of which amount at the present time to £378 15s. 6d. Out of this fund the almspeople receive 36s. monthly, besides clothing, coals, and an annual gift on the 5th of November:— and the remainder



GLEAVE'S ALMSHOUSES.



is expended in the necessary repairs and maintenance of the whole property.

The Almshouses, standing a short distance from the high road to London, consist of a common hall and twelve distinct houses each containing an upper and a lower room, all under one roof. These houses are inhabited by six poor men and six poor women, all single and above the age of sixty, and generally either decayed tradesmen or their widows.

*John Tilsley*, by will, left the Almshouses the reversion to £1000 three per cent. Reduced Annuities, in order that, after the death of his servant Mary Deedman, the dividends might be equally divided amongst the almspeople weekly, for ever. Mary Deedman died in 1809, and since that time the sum of 4s. weekly is paid to each of the almspeople from this source, leaving an annual surplus of £1 4s. which forms part of the annual gratuity to each of the almspeople.

*Henry Smith's Charity*.—Henry Smith, sometime before 1624 gave the town £1000 in order that, after his death, the Bailiffs and Freemen should employ the profits thereof “for the relief of the poor” “by providing stocks of some kind of wares or goods to keep them in work, by binding forth poor children apprentices, by instructing poor people in some kind of trade or course of living, whereby they may honestly and lawfully maintain themselves and families, and in relieving poor, aged and impotent according to their necessities.” By an agreement entered into in June, 1624, it was arranged that the Archbishop of Canterbury should ever after have the right to investigate the accounts and to see to the judicious appropriation of the funds.

The present income of this Charity is £106 per annum derived from lands and dividends in the three per cent. Consols, and it is appropriated in the annual distribution of about 350 cloth tickets (each of which is an order for a certain number of ells of cloth at a fixed price, the fund paying the balance to the tradesmen who supply the goods,) and a number of shoes, coats, cloaks, and other articles of dress for the poor, and in apprenticing poor boys.

*Norton's Charity*.—Robert Norton, by will, dated July 20, 1599, gave 20s. yearly out of the rent of the “Crane Inn, situate at the north end of Clattering Bridge and half an acre

of meadow, payable half-yearly, to buy wood or otherwise to be distributed amongst the poor at the discretion of the Bailiffs on St. Thomas's-day."

This is given to twenty poor widows in sums of 1s. each on or about St. Thomas's-day.

*Dolling's Charity.*—John Dolling, by will, dated January 11, 1606, bequeathed £50 to the poor of Kingston, "to be paid to the Churchwardens and Overseers, and by them laid out."

In 1611 this sum was used for the purchase of a close of land called Haycroft containing four acres or thereabouts, in Marsh-field; and on the Kingston Enclosure, an allotment of 1r. 28p. on Surbiton-common was granted to this Charity.

The present yearly rent is £7 12s. 11½d. which is laid out in the purchase of shoes for poor old men. The Trustees of this Charity are appointed by the Lord Chancellor.

*King Charles's Charity.*—On the Enclosure by King Charles, of Richmond-park, a portion of land belonging to the gift of Clement Milam, the rents of which were devoted to the repair of the Bridge; as well as other lands taken for the King's use, were purchased of the town for the sum of £346, on condition that £100 should be laid out for the use of the poor.

In March 1663 the Corporation purchased a parcel of land at Hersham, for £290, of which sum £100 was derived from the source above-named; and it was arranged that the Chamberlain of the Town, should yearly, out of the rents of the lands so purchased, pay for the use of the poor £5, as well as £1 11s. towards the repair of the Bridge in lieu of the rents of the lands sold to his Majesty.

This sum of £5 is laid out in the same manner as the proceeds of Dolling's gift.

*Hartop's Charity.*—John Hartop, by will, dated July 31, 1608, gave £6 out of the rents of his estates to be paid yearly on the 16th of March, and distributed amongst not less than twenty of the most needy poor of Kingston.

It was agreed in November, 1623, between the town and the representatives of John Hartop that the above £6 should be paid yearly out of the rents of such portion of the estates of the testator as lay in the parish of Kingston. The lands so charged are known as Hopkins's farm.

The annuity is now distributed in bread.



*Madgwick's Charity.*—Sarah Madgwick of Kingston, who died in 1806, bequeathed to the parish £50 Old South Sea Stock, that the interest of it might be laid out by the Churchwardens in the following manner, viz:— “on the 1st of February yearly for ever, there should be bread bought, and to each poor distressed person should be given one quartern loaf of white bread, until the whole of the said interest money should be expended.”

The interest of this sum, amounting to 30s. annually, is employed with the £6 derived from Hartop's Charity, in accordance with the intention of the donor Sarah Madgwick.

*Price's Charity.*—John Price, by will, dated December 30, 1624, left 20s. yearly to be paid out of the rent of a tenement at the south end of Clattering Bridge “to be distributed by the Bailiffs, with the consent of the Churchwardens and Overseers, amongst twenty poor widows, widowers, or other poor householders of the town, by 12*d.* a piece.”

*Buckland's Charity.*—Edward Buckland, by will, dated January 30, 1618, devised to the Bailiffs and Freemen of Kingston, a wharf and parcel of ground on the north side of the Great Bridge; on condition that they should build a convenient storehouse of brick upon the said wharf, within three years of his decease, and after its erection should yearly purchase and provide “as many sea coals as the yearly rent of the said wharf would reach to, and lay them up in the said storehouse, and in winter, when most need should be, should sell and deliver them forth to honest poor people of the town, at reasonable prices.”

The storehouse was built according to the testator's desire: but in the Parliamentary War the wharf suffered some considerable damage; and a portion of the rent derived from the lease of the premises was for a long time employed in repaying the Corporation for the necessary repairs, in which £35 had been expended from the Corporation treasury.

The premises were described in March, 1805, as “situate on the north side of the Great Bridge in Kingston, containing from north to south 74 feet, and from east to west 86 feet:” they now produce a yearly rent of £32.

Upon the Kingston Inclosure an allotment of 1*r.* 16*p.* on Surbiton-common was awarded to this Charity.

The testator's design is well carried out.

*Nicholl's Charity.*—William Nicholl, by will, dated November 10, 1726, directed £200 to be laid out in the purchase of freehold land to be conveyed to the Recorder and the High-Steward, the Bailiffs and the Vicar of Kingston, in trust, to apply the rents to the purchase of sea coals, to be sold in the winter to such poor people (not receiving any pension or collection from the officers of the parish) as the trustees thought fit, at cost price, and the proceeds to be laid out in augmentation of the Charity.

In accordance with the testator's design two closes of pasture land, called Boffey's closes, containing about nine acres, and situate in Shenley, Bucks, were purchased: and conveyed to Arthur Onslow and others and their heirs, in trust, to permit the persons designated in the will, to receive the rents and apply them according to the donor's intent. It was provided that on the death of the survivor of the said trustees, his heir should convey the premises to such persons as the Recorder, &c. should advise or require.

The rents were at one time suffered to accumulate until £650 three per cent. Consols were by means of such accumulation added to the Charity.

The lands are now let at £35 per annum, and the interest of the funded property is stated at £33 10s. The whole of this income is laid out as directed.

*The Countess of Dover's Charity.*—Mary, Countess of Dover, by deed, dated December 6, 1644, gave out of the rents of her lands, &c. in Southwark (except the Unicorn) a yearly sum of £5 4s. for ever, to be expended in bread, and distributed by the Vicar and Churchwardens on the Lord's-day of every week, for the use and relief of the poor of Kingston; two dozen loaves to be given every week.

*Hurst's Charity.*—Edward Hurst, by will, dated April 28, 1651, gave the town an annuity of £6 payable at Lady-day and Michaelmas by equal portions, to be received out of three parcels of land on the North-field of Kingston and to be disposed of to ten poor persons selected by the Bailiffs, Churchwardens and Overseers, at the rate of 1s. each per month.

The land is situate near the foot of Kingston-hill, opposite Mr. Jackson's nursery, and the £6 is expended in the relief of twenty poor widows of Kingston, who receive each six-penny worth of bread monthly.

*Cobbett's Charity.*—William Cobbett, by will, dated February 4, 1820, gave £300 four per cent. Consols, in trust, that the dividends should be yearly paid into the hands of the Churchwardens of Kingston and by them distributed in bread amongst the most necessitous poor of the said town, on the 1st of January in every year; unless that day were Sunday, and then on the 2nd.

The trustees are appointed by the vestry.

The legacy was reduced, by the payment of duty, to £270.

*Vandercom's Charity.*—It is thought that this Charity arose from a donation of one Mr. Vandercom an inhabitant, who desired to relieve the poor in the parish workhouse. The property consists of £200 three per cent. Consols, now standing in the names of the Vicar and others: and the dividends are applied for charitable purposes.

*Hatton's Charity.*—William Hatton, by will, dated May 18, 1703, left upon certain premises in Mark-lane, a charge of 90s. to be expended yearly in the purchase of six new rugs for distribution on the 1st of November to six poor house-keepers wanting bed clothes, inhabiting either Thames-Ditton, East or West Moulsey or Kingston.

The rugs are regularly transmitted and distributed according to the testator's wish—and two are generally given to poor people of Kingston.

*Walton's Charity.*—Mr. William Walton, formerly of Kingston-upon-Thames, in the county of Surrey, and late of Isleworth, in the county of Middlesex, gave and bequeathed “to the Minister, Curate and Churchwardens, of the parish of Kingston-upon-Thames, together with the Mayor, and Town Clerk, and Vestry Clerk, of the parish for the time being, £100 upon trust to be invested in government or real securities, or at any time or times in the purchase of lands; and the interests arising therefrom, to be laid out in coals every year, to be equally divided between twelve poor industrious or infirm widows of good character, residents in Kingston aforesaid, whether parishioners or not, if they are deserving and good moral characters and have severally attained the ages of forty-five years, to be selected and elected by the said trustees, and for them to continue to receive the same at their own places of residence from year

to year as long as they shall live in Kingston and continue widows and conduct themselves with propriety and to the satisfaction of such trustees; but in case of any gross and improper conduct, the said trustees to have the power to suspend the said bounty or to dismiss the delinquent, and elect any other or others in her or their stead. And any three of the said trustees to be a quorum, should no more be present, and whose determination shall be final. But I declare that widows of thirty-five years of age, having three children under the age of ten years are eligible to receive the bounty if the trustees think them worthy and proper objects. And in case of the death, marriage, or removal of any such pensioner from the said parish of Kingston, the said trustees shall elect another or others in her or their stead."

The following is a further bequest in favour of the same objects as expressed in a codicil to his will, bearing date the 26th of November, 1844.

"And whereas in and by my said will I have given a sum of £100 to the Minister or Curate of Kingston and other persons therein mentioned. And I have directed the dividends and interest thereof to be appropriated for the benefit of twelve poor industrious or infirm widows. Now I hereby direct that the number of poor widows be extended to sixteen; and I give a further sum of £50 to be laid out and invested as mentioned in my said will, and the dividends and interest thereof also to be paid and applied for the benefit of such sixteen poor widows as therein mentioned."

It has ever been found that a multiplicity of Endowed Charities, ministering rather to a spirit of indolence than to habits of industry, tends eventually to the impoverishment of a Community. And Kingston is no exception to the general rule. But in the commencement of the present century a new system of Charity was introduced into the town; which, while it offers little or no inducements to indolence or wilful penury, holds out to the industrious and deserving a helping hand in trouble and a stimulus to active exertion.

In November 1817 a Public Meeting was convened by the Bailiffs, for taking into consideration the propriety of forming an Association for the improvement of the morals and condition of the Poor; and, the proposition being well received and cordially supported, this meeting resulted in the formation of the

*Kingston Association*, whose object it is “to better, by every eligible means, the condition and morals of the Poor; and for that purpose to inquire as minutely as possible into their wants, employments and habits, and into the causes which produce good or bad effect upon them; and to recommend, from time to time, to the public, such measures as might appear calculated to promote the one and prevent the other.” The members of this Association are persons subscribing 10s. annually to the funds: and occasional meetings are held for the purpose of receiving reports or consulting on the business of the Society.

The sums annually collected by the Association are applied in rewarding those among the poor who have distinguished themselves by industry, frugality, perseverance, &c., and the number and nature of the Rewards distributed since the formation of the Association are thus stated

**FIRST CLASS:**—Eleven Persons, Parishioners of Kingston, who have creditably brought up the largest Families, being also Parishioners, without parochial relief.

**SECOND, NOW FIRST CLASS:**—One hundred and nineteen Domestic Servants who have lived the longest time in one place in the parish of Kingston, with good characters.

**SECOND CLASS:**—Fifty-four Agricultural Servants and Labourers who have lived the longest time in one place in the parish of Kingston, with good characters.

**THIRD CLASS:**—Forty-two Apprentices who, having applied within six months of the expiration of their Apprenticeship, have produced the best characters for good conduct, &c.

**FOURTH CLASS:**—One hundred and eight Young Persons, who, having been not less than two years in the Kingston Public School, and since that time in service, have produced the best characters for good conduct in that service.

**LATE FOURTH CLASS:**—Twenty-two Boys and Girls in the Kingston Public Schools for their exemplary conduct in the Schools and on the Sabbath.

Four Adult Scholars for their progress in Learning.

A Reward to a Watchman for his faithful and praiseworthy conduct as such.

A Reward to a Labourer for his humane conduct in saving a Child from drowning in the Thames.

Connected with the Association, and principally supported by voluntary contributions, are the Public and Infant Schools, a School of Industry, a Savings' Bank, Dispensary, Truss Society, and a Clothing and Bedding Society.

The *Public School*, which is well conducted, is supported by subscription, and by a small weekly payment made by the scholars. The Schoolrooms with Master's and Mistress's residences attached are situated in the Ham-road, about half a mile out of the town. The number of scholars is now upwards of two hundred and seventy; who are taught to read, write and cipher; and it is stipulated that "the parents or guardians of every child admitted shall engage that their children shall attend every Sunday at the Established Church, except in the case of Dissenters, who, if they object to their children attending the said Church, shall engage to take them to the place of religious worship to which they belong."

The *Infants' School*, founded in 1828, provides elementary instruction for about one hundred very young children, and is supported by voluntary contributions and the weekly payments of the children's parents.

The *School of Industry* was instituted for the purpose of instructing some of the poorer children in some useful handicraft: it is but slenderly supported.

The *Savings' Bank*, the business of which is conducted in a neat building adjoining the New Courts and facing the Market-place, is in a flourishing condition.

	£	s.	d.
The amount of Assets of the Bank, November 1851 was .....	48,106	18	8
The amount due to Depositors being only .....	47,779	1	9½

Leaving a balance in favor of the Bank amounting to..... £ 327 16 10½

The number of Deposit Accounts being 1813.

The *Dispensary* is entirely supported by voluntary contributions; each subscriber being entitled to recommend a certain number of patients, who are attended by the medical gentlemen of the neighbourhood at little more than a nominal fee paid by the Association. The number of patients attended during the year 1851 was five hundred and twenty, and the amount expended was £111 10s. 10d.

*The Clothing and Bedding Society* has for its object the assistance of "the industrious poor in procuring comfortable Bedding and Clothing for themselves and their children." This object is attained by requiring that those who would participate in the benefits of the Society shall themselves contribute, by weekly instalments of threepence, to one-half the value of the goods they receive.

The first class of Rewards contemplated by the Association in its early years, consisted of a sum of money to be given to persons who had brought up large families, with good character, and without parochial relief; but in the year 1821 this object of the Association was suspended by a donation of the late Earl of Liverpool who then resided at Combe.

*Lord Liverpool's Bounty*, consists of a sum of money invested for the benefit of five such poor and deserving persons as mentioned above; to each of whom the sum of £5 is given at Christmas.

Several of the subdivisions of the Kingston Association have been permanently endowed by Mrs. Savage, the widow of a former Vicar of Kingston, who left

To the Kingston Association for Rewards, &c. . . .	£100
—— Dispensary . . . . .	£1000
—— Public Schools . . . . .	£500
—— Clothing Society . . . . .	£500
—— Mendicity Society " . . . . .	£100

*Mrs. Savage's Bequests*: in addition to the above, Mrs. Savage left £2000 for a Charity known as the Princess Charlotte's Memorial for the assistance of poor women in labour;<sup>v</sup>

£2500, the dividends from which are to be employed in the relief of twelve poor deserving widows;

£5000 for the establishment of a series of Lectures, twelve of which are to be delivered on the Sabbath evenings in Trinity, and twelve during Lent, in the Parish Church, the remaining Lectures being delivered at the Hall of the Alms-house and in the Workhouse.

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<sup>u</sup> This Society has been discontinued, and the dividends are applied to the Church Sunday School.

<sup>v</sup> The present King of Belgium contributes also ten guineas a year to this fund.

£500 to the Church Sunday School,—the interest to be applied in clothing the Girls attending the School.

£200,—the interest of which is to be applied at the discretion of the Trustees in assisting aged and indigent persons.

£666 13s. 4d.,—the interest to be employed in promoting and maintaining the Psalmody in Kingston Church.

£666 13s. 4d.,—the interest of which is to be bestowed by the Vicar in gifts to the Ringers of Kingston Church, while they conduct themselves orderly; with the special proviso that peals are not to be rung on the Sunday evenings.

£50 to accumulate until required for an Altar Piece in Kingston Church.

The *Bible Society*, and the various *Missionary Societies* in connexion with the different sections of the Christian Community, are supported in Kingston: and there are Chapels,\* for the Independents, Wesleyans, Baptists and Quakers.

When Richard Mayo the Vicar was dispossessed of his Living for non-conformity, he collected a congregation and founded a Presbyterian Society in Kingston: this Society flourished for some years; but at length, during a period which may well be called the “dark age” of Kingston, when (about a century ago) vice was dominant in the town, the Presbyterian connexion disappeared.

The present Society of Independents was formed at the close of the last century, and their Chapel is now in Heathen-street; the Wesleyans have had a Chapel for some years in the much neglected district of Canbury; the Baptists have two Chapels, one in Brick-lane near the Burial Ground, and the other in Canbury; and the Society of Friends have a Meeting House in Heathen-street.

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\* With the exception of the Independent Chapel, which enjoys an endowment of about £30 a year, transferred to it from an older but now extinct Presbyterian House, these are supported by voluntary contributions.



## CHAPTER VIII.

## NORBITON AND COMBE.

Norbiton, supposed to be an abbreviation for North Barton\* (signifying North Demesne) is that portion of the parish which lies north-eastward of the town towards Kingston-hill. It was anciently a manor subordinate to Kingston, paying the Corporation an annual quit rent of £7 11s. 9d. It was held in the reign of Henry III, by the family of Creoun; for Maurice Creoun, in the 56th year of Henry's reign, styling himself a Knight of Anjou, granted all his hereditary right in this manor, as well as in Hamme, Waletone, Comb, and Ewel, to Sir Robert Burnel, knt., and his heirs.



Norbiton Church.

*The Church of St. Peter's.*—The rapidly increasing population of Kingston having rendered additional Church accommodation necessary, and the size of the Old Church rendering any addition by way of enlargement to that building inconvenient, the Vicar, with the advice and co-operation of many of

\* Norbiton and Surbiton do not lie respectively north and south of Kingston; though that is their position relatively to each other, and to a portion of the town lying near the

the inhabitants, determined on the erection of a New Church; and having selected Norbiton as the situation most in need of immediate provision, purchased a site for the Church near the intersection of the Malden-road with the London-road.

The Church, which is a pretty specimen of late Norman architecture, consists of a nave with side aisles and galleries and a small chancel. A slender tower stands at the north-west corner facing the road. The principal entrance is at the west end, under a gallery in which is a tolerably good organ by Gray. The arrangement of the interior is convenient, and the whole is lighted with gas; the pews and free seats, which together are capable of accommodating eight hundred persons, are of fir stained and varnished. The windows in the chancel are of stained glass.

This Church was built by subscription. The total cost of erection being upwards of £5000, of which sum the Church Commissioners contributed £500, the Incorporated Society £300, and the Diocesan Society £300. It was consecrated on February 19th, 1842, by the Bishop of Winchester.

Norbiton has been constituted a District, and the Living is a Perpetual Curacy in the gift of the Vicar of Kingston. The Curate's stipend consists of the produce of pew rents, amounting on an average to about £175 per annum, and the Parsonage House, which was likewise built by subscription is occupied rent free.

The Incumbents have been the Rev. J. W. S. Powell, now Vicar of Abinger, and the Rev. R. Holberton, the present Incumbent.

*The Workhouse*, erected in 1837 from designs by Mason and Son of Ipswich, stands on the side of Kingston-hill about a quarter of a mile beyond St. Peter's Church. It is an extensive and well arranged building of red brick, somewhat heavy and fantastic in its appearance, and approaching in style many structures of the age of Elizabeth. It consists of two stories of conveniently arranged rooms, with workshops, hospital, &c.

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supposed site of the ancient Royal Palace or Castle and now called *The Bittoms*. A small part of the town to the west of the Bittoms and lying close upon the river is called *West-by-Thames*. It appears not improbable that these four districts derived their name from a common source, the principal of the four being *The Bittoms*: and the fact of that spot having been the royal portion of the town certainly favours the assumption. Perhaps the origin of the names may be found in the Saxon *bellan* to shout or give alarm and *ton* or *don* the place of a garrison, the Bittoms being the site of the *Belton* or chief watch tower, and other such towers being placed on Norbiton and Surbiton hills. The latter names are sometimes, especially in ecclesiastical deeds, spelled Norbelton and Surbelton.

The building is capable of accommodating between three and four hundred inmates, who are employed at the discretion of the Guardians in the cultivation of the surrounding garden, in preparing firewood, &c., and in making their own clothing. The House is used for the reception of indigent poor from the thirteen following parishes constituting the Kingston Union, viz :— Kingston, Ham, Hook, Long Ditton, Thames Ditton, Esher, East and West Moulsey, Wimbledon, Malden, Hampton, Hampton Wick, and Teddington ; and from the fact of Kingston being the centre of the Union, as well as from a blind persistence in cottage building in Kingston, it has resulted that this town bears a larger proportion of the expenses of the Union than is otherwise due to its population. Measures have however been adopted for producing a change for the better in this respect ; and it is hoped the town will shortly be somewhat relieved of the extraordinary burden it has lately borne in the shape of Poor's-rates. The numerous applicants for relief have work offered them by the Surveyors of the Highways, and while many who are willing to work are thus supplied with a means of honestly gaining their livelihood, others, whose only object in applying to the Parish Officers has hitherto been the obtaining of relief which should enable them to idle, are now put upon their own resources and find that an honest penny is more easily earned than the reward of indolence obtained.

*Norbiton-hall* : the residence of R. H. Jenkinson, esq., Lieutenant Governor of Dover Castle, is situated nearly opposite the Church. It was once the property of Erasmus Ford, esq., a Commissioner of Sewers for the county of Surrey under the Act of 23 Henry VIII ; and from the tenor of a letter addressed by Ford to Lord Cromwell,<sup>y</sup> it appears that Norbiton was at that time ornamented by a number of stately elms which have since disappeared.

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<sup>y</sup> Ford complains thus of one Dean an inhabitant of Kingston " howe unkyndly, howe crewelly and oncherytably, with owt any offence geven on my be half, to my knowlege, the sayd Dean cam to my cheff howse called Norbeton-hall, and sewyd non awctoryte, and never mocyoned me, my tenaunt, nor non of myn, but lyke an hemprowr enters in to my grownd bordered abowzthe with elmys, the cheff pleasor of all my howse, unknowlegyng to hys Mr. the surveyor of Hampton-corte, and sore a geynst hys wyll and mynd, that the poryst man schuld be so used, hathe pluckyd, ouerthrowen, dygyd uppe by the roots xxxv of my purest and ffeyrest elmes that he and hys worke men cold ffynd, to my hygh dyspleasor, hyndrans, and great lose."

The row or avenue of elms of which Ford's trees formed a part was not entirely destroyed until about sixty years ago, when the few that remained were maliciously removed by some party, much to the annoyance of the inhabitants of Kingston.

In the reign of Edward VI, Norbiton-hall was the property of Richard Taverner, esq., a man of some note as a zealous protestant and fearless expounder of the Scriptures.\*

In 1603, George Evelyn, esq., of Long Ditton, died, seized of the Manor and Hall of Norbiton, valued at 20s. per annum and held by Mr. Evelyn of the Bailiffs of Kingston. In 1609 it was in the possession of Anthony Benn, esq., and it afterwards passed through the hands of Roger Wood, Sir Robert Wood and others of his family, the Reeves family, Mr. Greenly, Mr. Twopenny, Mr. Farren of Covent-garden, and Mr. Lintall by whom it was sold in 1799 to Gen. Gabriel Johnson, and in the early part of the year 1829 it was purchased by Lady Liverpool and the present proprietor.\*

*Norbiton-place*, the residence of Commodore G. R. Lambert, R.N. is on the opposite side of the road from Norbiton-hall, and stands in a small park, in which is a lake of excellent water derived from a well bored to a depth of upwards of four hundred feet.

In the middle of the last century the estate called Norbiton-place was purchased of Mr. Nicholls by Sir John Phillips, bart., of Picton Castle, Pembroke. His son Richard, created Baron Milford in 1776, sold the estate to Mr. Sherer a wine merchant, and he sold it to Mrs. Dennis who erected a new mansion and gave it with the ground to her son-in-law H. J. Massey, esq., whose widow married the late C. N. Pallmer, esq., Member for Surrey in the last Parliament of George the IV's reign.

While Mr. Pallmer resided here he added considerably to the grounds, and greatly improved the mansion, by the erection of an elegant Ionic portico and a new wing. But the greater part of the grounds have since been sold away and the present house consists of little more than the new wing of Mr. Pallmer's mansion.

H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge has promised a portion of these grounds as a site for an Asylum for the Widows and Orphans of Military Officers.

\* He obtained from Edward a license to preach in any part of his Majesty's dominions; and at one time, when Sheriff of Oxford, preached before the University, with a sword by his side and a gold chain about his neck. He lived unmolested at Norbiton during the reign of Mary and afforded sanctuary to several who sought security in the quiet town of Kingston.

\* The road from London passed originally at the back of Norbiton-hall, and was a continuation of Combe-lane, the Roman road from Tooting.

COMBE.<sup>b</sup>

In Domesday Book mention is made of Combe in the following terms:— “Humfridus Camerario tenet de feudo reginae Cumbe. Alured tenuit de rege, et poterat ire quo volebat. Tunc se defendebat pro iii hidis, modo pro nichilo. Terra est ii Carrucatarum. In dominio est una, et iii villani, et iiii bordarii, cum una carrucata. Ibi viii acrae prati. Tempore Regis Edwardi valebat iiii libras; postea xx solidos; modo c solidos. Tempore Regis Willelmi femina quae hanc terram tenebat misit se cum ea in manu reginae.”

Combe was therefore, at the time of the Survey held by Humfrid the Chamberlain and consisted of two hundred acres of arable land and eight acres of meadow. The manor proper consisted of one hundred acres held by Humfrid and one hundred held by his tenants, viz: three villans and two bordars. The value of the manor in the time of the Confessor, when it was the *freehold* of Alured, was stated at £240 of our money: when it first came into William's hands it was valued at £60; and at the time of the Survey at £300.

It is probable that Humfrid held this land on condition of collecting the Queen's wool-money,<sup>c</sup> for when Henry I gave it to the family of Postel, the service was stated to be the collection of the wool-money, or compounding for the same by the payment of 20s. a year at the Treasury. The last of the Postels who held the manor of Combe was Ralph, who held it on the same terms. It afterwards came into the hands of the Crown and was held by the Corporation of Kingston: for in the 19th of Henry III that body stood charged with arrears amounting to £7 19s. on account of the manor of *Postel*. Twenty years later it was held by Peter de Baldwin on the same tenure; but during his life the lands were alienated to different tenants each of whom became responsible to Baldwin for one-third of the value of his tenement, Baldwin being responsible to the Exchequer for the whole payment: and several descendants of Baldwin held the manor in the same way.

About the year 1299 the Crown granted the Serjeantry of Combe to Robert Passeleme one of the King's Justices: and the service was soon after converted into Knight's Service, the manor being held equivalent to a twentieth of a Knight's fee.

<sup>b</sup> Combe is derived from the Welsh or British *cwm*, a ravine or hill top, a term generally applied to the part of a hill in which the highest springs rise. The name is in this case very applicable.

<sup>c</sup> See page 12.

## COMB-NEVIL.

Another manor in Combe is mentioned thus in the General Survey: "*Ansgotus interpres tenet de rege Cumbe. Cola tenuit Tempore Regis Edwardi. Tunc se defendebat pro iii hidis, modo pro una hida et dimidia. Terra est iii carrucatarum. In dominio est una, et vi villani, et i bordarius cum i carrucata, et iiii acrae prati. Pro herbagio iiii porci. Valet lx solidos.*"

In the time of the Confessor the land held by Cola the tenant was rated at three hundred acres. But in William's time, though there were three hundred acres of arable land in the manor as held by Ansgot it was rated as only one hundred and fifty. There were also four acres of meadow and as much herbage in the Woods as yielded annually to the Lord of the Manor four swine. The annual value was stated at £180 of our money.

The demesne consisted of one hundred acres in the occupation of the Lord of the Manor, and one hundred held by various tenants at will.

The family of Belet held this manor from a very early period till about 1230, with the exception of a few years during which it was kept by the king in his own hands. On its restitution to Robert Belet in 1190 he was charged 80 marcs as the price of its restoration. At that time the manor was stated to have consisted of the Lordship of Combe with the park belonging thereto: and to have been of the yearly value of £9 7s.

The united manors of Combe were granted by John to Hugh Nevil, Justice of the Forests and Treasurer to the King: though a portion must have been held for some time by the Belets or restored to them as above stated.

In the time of Edward I, the united manors were held by William de Nevil and have been since called Comb-Nevil. William de Nevil left two daughters, Nichola the wife of John de Hadresham, and Alice the wife of Richard Wyate, between whom the manor was divided; but as Alice's family consisted of an only son who died in his infancy, the whole fell into the hands of John de Hadresham, whose grandson John granted it in 1404 to the Prior and Convent of Merton, by whom it was held until the dissolution of the Priory.

Henry VIII annexed it to the honor of Hampton-court but granted it for twenty-one years to Richard Briggs.<sup>d</sup>

Edward VI granted the manor of Comb-Nevil, with its appurtenances and Combe-park, to Edward Duke of Somerset: and on his attainder it again reverted to the Crown. It was afterwards granted by Elizabeth to William Cecil, Lord Burleigh, and at his request transferred to Thomas Vincent, esq., of Stoke D'Aubernon, who rebuilt the Manor-house, and on its completion, after having been knighted at Stoke, entertained the Queen at Combe. Sir William Vincent sold the manor to William Cockayne, esq., and the sale was confirmed by James I, who assessed upon the property a yearly rent of £14 12s. 7½d.<sup>e</sup>

Charles Lord Viscount Cullen, the eldest son of Sir William Vincent, sold the manor to Daniel Harvey, a brother of the celebrated Dr. William Harvey (discoverer of the Circulation of the Blood). Sir Edward Harvey his grandson, a staunch adherent of the Stuarts, resided here some time: and having spent a few months in Newgate for his unguarded conduct, found a savage pleasure after his release in watching for and shooting all the stray pheasants from Richmond-park.

The Combe estate was purchased of the Harveys in 1753 by the trustees of John Spencer, esq., (then a minor). It was subsequently occupied by some members of the Tollemache family, and the mansion was for a considerable time the residence of the late Earl of Liverpool.<sup>f</sup> It is now the property of H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge.

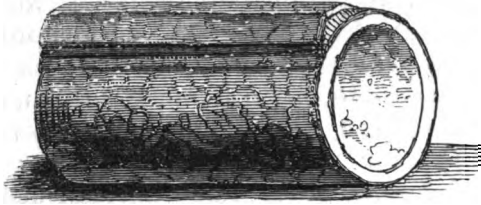
The SPRINGS of water at Combe vary much in their character. At Combe-house, as well as on several adjoining estates, the waters are very brackish and saline, containing large quantities of iron and magnesia. A Spring near the Park-wall, and which supplies Norbiton-hall and Norbiton-place, contains a considerable quantity of chalk. But the most remarkable Spring is that which was selected by Cardinal Wolsey to supply his Palace at Hampton-court.

<sup>d</sup> The manor at this time consisted of two hundred acres of arable land, one hundred of pasture, eighteen of meadow, a wood, and a mansion, in the possession of the Lord; besides other lands and tenements held under him at rents amounting to about 30s.

<sup>e</sup> The widow of Sir William Vincent married the Earl of Dover, and at her death left a small benefaction for the poor of Kingston. See "Charities."

<sup>f</sup> The last Royal visit to Kingston was made in 1814, when the late Earl of Liverpool, then High-Steward of Kingston, received the Prince Regent and his illustrious friends the Emperor Alexander of Russia, the King of Prussia, and Generals Blucher and Platow at Combe, on their way to Portsmouth.

The water of this Spring, which overflows, at about sixteen feet below the surface of the soil on the western side of the hill, contains only a small quantity of carbonate of magnesia and a minute trace of sulphate of magnesia. Wolsey conveyed



this water to Hampton-court through nearly  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles of leaden pipes, each twenty-five feet long, a portion of one of which is represented in the annexed cut. About

one hundred and seventy years ago some of these pipes were replaced by cylindrical pipes, each about two feet long; and at the present time, repairs, when necessary, are made with pipes cast in twelve feet lengths. The water is now conveyed from Combe to the Surrey side of the Thames by means of two sets of pipes each two inches in diameter; it crosses the Thames at Surbiton, through two cast iron pipes, and then by means of leaden pipes similar to those on the Surrey side passes to Hampton-court and supplies the whole of the Palace.<sup>s</sup>

Between the London-road and the Park-stile the gallows formerly stood, and the site was for some time known as Gallows-hill. On the summit of the next hill through which the London-road is cut, stands a villa recently erected by Robert Lawes, esq., which is worthy of notice as well for the noble conservatory attached as for the almost unrivalled views obtained from the principal rooms.<sup>h</sup>

In the valley between this hill and Wimbledon-common is a house rendered notorious by the frequent visits paid to it by the renowned robber Jerry Abershaw. The Bald-faced Stag was this freebooter's house of call during the period in which he infested the neighbourhood and levied black mail on all who passed.<sup>i</sup>

<sup>s</sup> See appendix.

<sup>h</sup> The view across the Park is exceedingly beautiful: and it would be difficult to imagine a scene of similar character which should surpass it. The Thames with its bordering woodlands, dotted here and there with villages and churches, flows quietly in the bosom of the valley: Richmond-park with its gentle undulation and varied scenery occupies the foreground; while the distant hills of Surrey, Berkshire and Bucks form a perspective background, adding beauty to the whole, and softening every harshness by the ever varying tints caused by changes of light and weather.

<sup>i</sup> Brayley, in his History of Surrey, tells an anecdote of this daring highwayman, which, as illustrative of character, is worth repetition; he says "that, on a dark and inclement night in the month of November, after having stopped every passenger on the road, being suddenly taken ill, he found it necessary to retire to the Bald-faced Stag, and



## HERTINGDON COMBE OR HARLINGTON.

This manor, the extent of which is not accurately known, was in possession of the Priory of Merton in 1252, and continued in the hands of that house till its suppression by Henry VIII, who afterwards granted the manor to Richard Taverner at a rent of 17s. 4d. In 1624 it was held by George Cole, esq., of the Middle Temple, and the greater part of it was probably merged in Richmond-park a few years afterwards. The Manor-house, more recently called, by abbreviation Hert-Combe-place, stood on the right-hand side of the road at the foot of Kingston-hill at the entrance into the town from London; it was at one time the palace of Archbishop Tillotson; then Dr. Woodeson's school, and more recently the Parish Workhouse. It has been lately removed, and near its site has been erected a double cottage, now the property of Thomas Chancellor, esq.<sup>1</sup>

## CHAPTER IX.

## CANBURY, HAM AND HATCH.

*Canbury.*—The precinct of Kingston to the north is called Canbury, or Kingston Canonbury, from its having formerly been held by the Canons of Merton Priory, who had a grant of free-warren over the manor in the time of Henry III.

The united manors of Canbury and Hatch were at one time held subject to a payment of 15s. per annum to the Corporation of Kingston; and with that of Ham were valued in Cardinal Beaufort's time at 52s. It was held in 1573 by a

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his comrades deeming it advisable to send to Kingston for medical assistance, the present Dr. WILLIAM ROOTS, then a very young man, attended. Having bled him, and given the necessary advice, he (the Dr.) was about to return home, when his patient, with much earnestness, said, 'you had better, Sir, have some one to go back with you, as it is a very dark and lonesome journey.' This however the Dr. declined, observing that he had 'not the least fear, even should he meet with *Abershaw* himself;'—little thinking to whom he was making his reply. It is said that the ruffian frequently alluded to this scene afterwards with much comic humour; and it is most probable that the guinea he gave to Dr. ROOTS for his attendance was just warm from the pocket of the last person he had robbed on the road hard by.

<sup>1</sup> Manning, who had some doubts on the subject, confounded this Hertcomb or Hertingdon Combe with Hercomb's house in Heathen-street: an error easily accounted for from the similarity of name, as well as from the fact that the Nevils, Earls of Warwick, were at one time the owners of Comb-Nevil and of the house afterwards the property of Hercomb. But it does not appear that the Nevils ever held the manor of Hertingdon Combe.

Mr. Gaynsford, in 1635 it was the property of William Murray, esq.; in 1652 of Arabella Countess of Kent; in 1664 of John Ramsay, esq.; in 1671 it became the property of Nicholas Hardinge, esq., whose relation George Hardinge, esq., sold it to Wilbraham Tollemache, esq., afterwards Earl of Dysart.

The Tithe Barn at Canbury was one of the largest in the Country, being ninety feet square, with sufficient accommodation for the unloading of a score of waggons at one time beneath its roof. A gentleman now living was in his younger days driven in a phaeton with four horses in hand, not only through each of the four entrances, but also several times round the interior, at full trot; such was the immense size of this barn.

The Gas Works are situate in this precinct.

*Ham and Hatch.*—Ham (from the Saxon *Hamme* a mansion) is now a small village about two miles from Kingston. Hatch (supposed to be derived from *hacca* a gate) is known only by name.

The manor of Ham was part of the Royal demesne of Kingston; and was granted by Henry II to Maurice de Creoun one of his favorites. It consisted at that time of as much land as yielded a rent of £6 per annum. At Maurice's death the manor reverted for a time to the Crown; but it was granted in 1215 to his son Peter: and, with the exception of a few years, it remained in the hands of this family till purchased in 1260 by Robert Burnel, afterwards Bishop of Bath and Wells. The value of the manor was then stated at £6 per annum.

Sir Otho de Grandison, who went with Prince Edward to the Holy Land, purchased a life interest in this estate, and held it till about 1305: when it reverted to the Burnel family and remained with it till 1420, when, in consequence of the failure of heirs male, it fell to William Lord Lovel heir of the female branch of the family.

Francis Lord Lovel, created Viscount Lovel by Edward IV, and a partisan of Richard III, was the last member of the family who held Ham. He was slain at the battle of Stoke near Newark-upon-Trent, and the manor of Ham was forfeited to the Crown.

Henry VIII granted the manor, first to Massey Villarde and Thomas Brampton for thirty years at a rent of £23 8s.:

and afterwards to Ann of Cleves for the maintenance of her dignity so long as she should remain in England. Ann surrendered it to Edward VI.

James I granted the manor and its appurtenances to Henry Prince of Wales, and his heirs Kings of England: but as he died in the 19th year of his age, James demised it to Sir Francis Bacon, Sir John Daccomb, and Sir Francis Tullerton and others in trust for Charles Prince of Wales and his heirs Kings of England. Charles let the manor to various tenants; and lastly to William Murray, esq., whose daughter Elizabeth, wife of Sir Lionel Talmache, bart., inherited his estates. She obtained a patent of title of Baroness of Huntingtower and Countess of Dysart, and the estates have remained in her family to this day.



**Ham House.**

*Ham House* (situate in the parish of Petersham) is the Manor-house, and appears to have been erected by Sir Thomas Vavasour, knt. in the beginning of the seventeenth century and to have been purchased by William Murray, esq. whose widow surrendered it to the Lord of the Manor: and it has remained in the family of the Earls of Dysart to the present time.

The first Countess of Dysart made many alterations and improvements in the mansion, and Charles II furnished it at great expense; intending it for the residence of his son Henry.

Few alterations have been made in it since Charles's time: the original painted ceilings, the furniture, the silver bellows, brushes, and the arm chair and cane of the first Countess, are still preserved; but the mansion is in a neglected state and appears more like the dismal cell of some disembodied spirit than the dwelling of any human being.

Nearly one-half of Richmond-park is in the parish of Kingston and its hamlet of Ham. The first Ranger of the park was Sir Daniel Harvey, *knt.*, Lord of the Manor of Combe. Sir Robert Walpole, whose son was Ranger from 1727 to 1751, spent large sums of money on the improvement of the park; but he removed the ladders from the walls and shut up the gates: and his successor the Princess Amelia, having still further prevented access to the park, by refusing admittance to those who had previously gained it on application, the right of footway was ultimately tried and established at Kingston; and step ladders were placed at East Sheen, Ham, and Combe, a swing gate at Richmond, and doors, (admission at which is readily obtained on application,) at Canbury, Robinhood, and Roehampton. The Thatched-lodge in Kingston parish, is occupied by Major General Sir Edward Bowater, *K.C.H.*

*Bank-grove*, the seat of W. Byam Martin, *esq.*, who purchased it of the executors of the late General Sir John Delves Broughton, *bart.*, lies partly in Kingston and partly in Ham. The mansion, which is in Kingston, is commodious and well situated, the grounds are tastefully laid out, and the gardens are celebrated for a fine collection of rare exotics which have for a long time been successfully cultivated there.

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#### SURBITON, HOOK AND BERWELL-COURT.

*Surbiton* is that portion of Kingston which lies southward of the town, beyond the lane opposite the conduit at Town's-end. It paid a quit rent of £1 11s. 11½*d.* to the Corporation of Kingston in the reign of Henry V.

The salubrity of this part of the parish had for many years induced the erection of houses on the hill, and already a hamlet promised to arise on its summit, when the directors of the South-Western Railway, compelled by the opposition of

the town of Kingston, diverged their road from its intended route near the town, and cut through the hill at Surbiton. C. Terry, esq. the proprietor of a portion of land taken by the Company, died about this time; and a portion of his property sold by the heir came into the hands of a speculator, who, seizing the advantages offered by the passage of the railroad on a level across his land, immediately laid it out as building ground; but was compelled, from want of capital, to mortgage the houses as fast as they were erected: and the whole ultimately became the property of the mortgagees. Since the latter have taken possession, the streets have been well laid down and the whole estate thoroughly drained. The number of houses at present erected and occupied is considerable and the population of Surbiton is estimated at 2800.



Surbiton Church.

So large and rapid an increase of population making it desirable that a New Church should be erected, the present proprietors, with the assistance of a few friends, contributed the necessary funds, and a Church and Parsonage House have been built on the upper part of the hill. The Church, which is dedicated to St. Mark, is in the Anglo-Norman style, consisting of a nave and side aisles intersected by a transept,

with a small chancel. The whole structure is much too low for its size; but from its commanding position is a conspicuous and ornamental object from the valley below. The present Incumbent is the Rev. E. Phillips. The Living is a Perpetual Curacy in the gift of the Proprietors of the New Town, subject to the approval of the Vicar of Kingston.

On the Portsmouth-road and facing the Thames is *Woodbines* the property of C. E. Jemmett, esq., the Town Clerk of Kingston: and a little beyond it on the same road is a Chapel erected by the late Alexander Raphael, esq. for the use of such members of the Romish Faith as might after its erection be induced to reside in the neighbourhood. There are very few Romanists in Kingston, and it is understood that the Chapel was erected rather in fulfilment of a vow than for any special *use* to which it might ever be appropriated.

On the Surbiton-road is a flat heavy looking mansion which formerly belonged to the late Earl of Uxbridge: it afterwards became the property of John Garratt, esq., (who as Lord Mayor of London laid the first stone of London bridge in 1825). The present owner, who inherits under his uncle's will, is Edward Alexander, esq.

At the foot of Surbiton-hill, where the roads intersect, is a small estate known as *Elmers*; and, nearer the town is *Elm-grove*, the residence of Miss Fassett.<sup>k</sup>

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#### HOOK AND BERWELL-COURT.

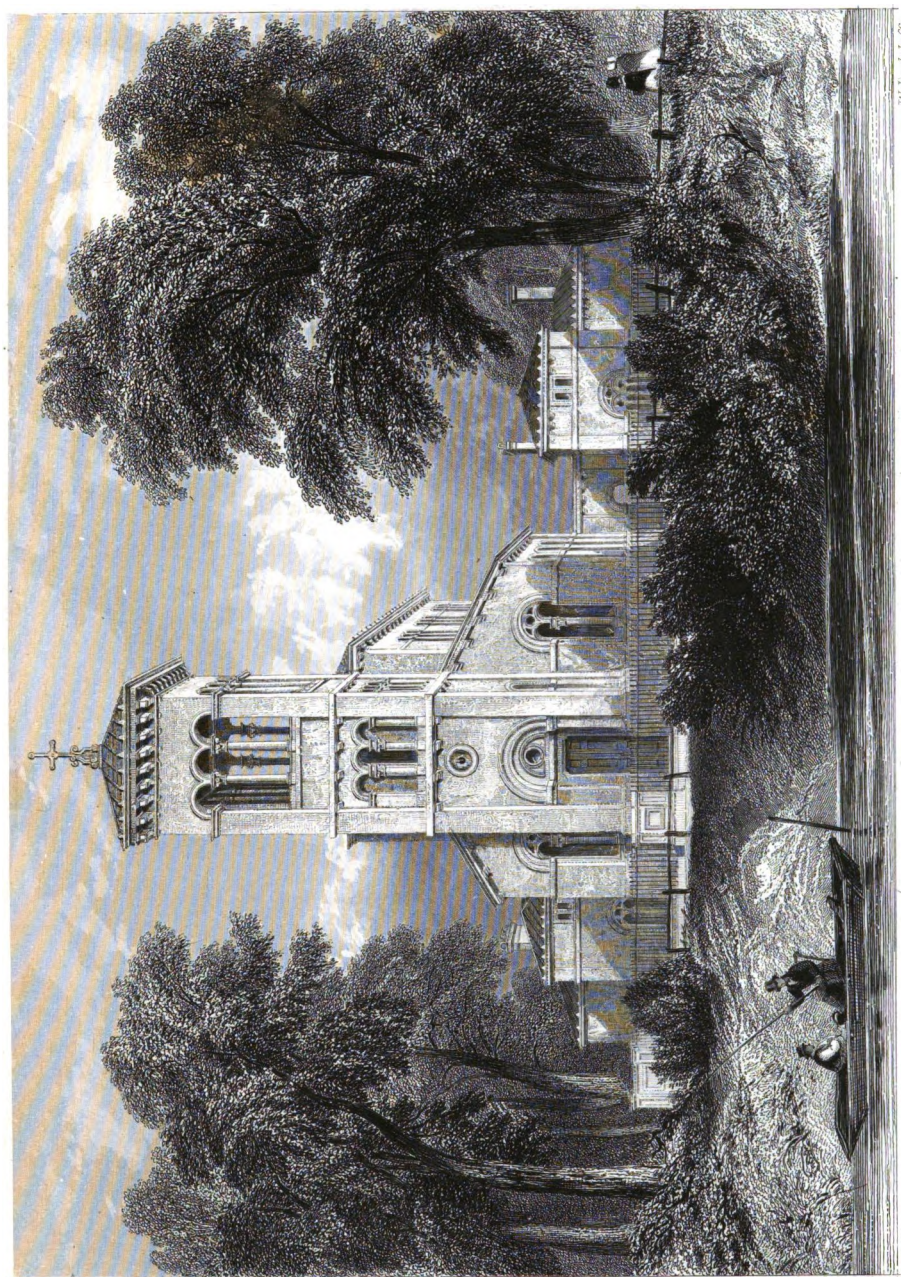
Hook (formerly la Hoke) is a hamlet on the Brighton-road, at the southern end of Surbiton. It contains about fifty-five houses and 200 inhabitants.

In this hamlet is an old Manor-house called Berwell-court, formerly held by the Priory at Merton, on payment of 6s. per annum to the Corporation of Kingston. Henry VIII seized the manor and added it to his honor of Hampton-court. Elizabeth gave it to Thomas Vincent, esq. with the manor of Comb-Nevil. It was conveyed by him in 1505 to Edward Carleton of Stoke D'Aubernon; and coming afterwards into

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<sup>k</sup> These estates, as well as Norbiton, were formerly remarkable, as their names imply, for the majestic elms which grew there.





*The Roman Catholic Church at Surbiton  
 (built the Church of the Archangel Raphael  
 by the late Mr. Sturt, 1840)*





the possession of Matthew Carleton, was by him conveyed to Sir Dudley Carleton, of Ember-court, knt., and it remained in the hands of his family till about the year 1695, at which time James Davidson, esq. was in possession. During the last hundred and fifty years it has been sold by almost every successive proprietor.

In the year 1838 a small Chapel of Ease was erected at Hook, for the convenience of the inhabitants, who, being upwards of four miles from the Parish Church, were before compelled either to absent themselves altogether from the Public Services of the Church, or to go into other parishes.

The present Incumbent is the Rev. T. Pyne who resides at Surbiton.

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This historical notice of Kingston would be imperfect indeed without some mention of a Society which has existed in the town for the last few years; the members of which, pretending to nothing more than a desire for profitable conversation, have enjoyed much solid gratification and derived great advantage from their own unobtrusive exertions. The Society consists of a few gentlemen, each of whom engages to introduce, in his turn, a subject for conversation. The meetings are held fortnightly during the winter; each member is allowed to introduce two friends; and the subjects of conversation are not limited, otherwise than by the exclusion of politics and theology. The member, whose turn it is to introduce the subject for conversation, is not allowed more than one hour for the reading of his paper or the declaration of his own views on the subject proposed; and at the close of his address, every person present is at liberty to oppose, or to propose one or more questions for elucidation. Conversation is restricted to the subject of the evening, and has generally followed freely upon the conclusion of the address; and formal *discussion* is studiously avoided.

Admission to this Society is obtained by the nomination of two members, the approval of the committee, and by an assurance from the person nominated that he will, when called upon, introduce, either in a paper or essay, or in some other more convenient manner, a subject for conversation.

The expenses are very small, a subscription of 10s. per annum having been found amply sufficient to meet every

incidental charge: and the advantage derived by members, in *addition* to the effect of association for any good purpose, consists in the furnishing an object and inducement for careful reading and studious habits; as it is impossible that any one should acquit himself with satisfaction, to himself or others, without a degree of care and diligence not often found in the present day of frivolous sensuality.

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#### VICARAGE.

On the 25th of December, 1851, soon after the foregoing pages were printed, the Rev. S. W. Gandy, who for many years, and amidst extreme sufferings mental and bodily, had superintended the charge of the united Livings of Kingston and Richmond, departed this life, to enter on a better and to realize the peace he longed for; but to which through infirmity he was a stranger on earth. He was a man of great learning, a profound theologian, skilful in argument, yet affable and generous in the extreme, and was deservedly and highly esteemed by all who knew him. The respect in which he was held by men of all denominations, was testified at his funeral, which was attended by a large number of the neighbouring clergy, and by hundreds of the gentry and tradesmen of the town and its vicinity; who united, as one man, to mark their high estimate of the character of him whose extreme humility had too much separated him from them during his life.

The Livings of Kingston and Richmond have been again separated, and the present Vicar of Kingston is the Rev. H. R. Measor, M.A.

## APPENDIX.

CONSISTING OF MISCELLANEOUS NOTES<sup>1</sup> AND OBSERVATIONS  
ON THE FOREGOING NARRATIVE.

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## NAMES: AND THEIR ORIGIN.

The Town was called by the Romans *Thamesa* (see p. 6); by the early Saxons *Moreford* (see p. 8); and after the union of the Heptarchy *Cyngestun*, *Cynningestune*, *Kenningston*, *Kyngeston*, *Kingston*.

In the parish are *Canbury*, or *Canonbury* (see p. 99).

*Norbiton*, (perhaps North Barton) see p. 91.

*Surbiton*, (perhaps South Barton) see p. 92.

*The Bittoms*, (a name of doubtful origin) see p. 91.

*West-by-Thames*, (a name as old as the reign of Henry V) see p. 91.

*Seething Wells*, a small district where the Brighton-road branches out from the Portsmouth-road, and where there exists a *spring of warm water* once in great repute (see p. 34.)

*Bishop's Hall*, a roadway from the middle of Thames-street nearly opposite the Church, to the river's side: formerly the site of the Bishop of Winchester's house (see p. 9). Leland, speaking of this place in his Itinerary says "in the new Toun by the Tamise side there is a house yet caullid the Bishop's Haulle, but now it is turnid into a commune dwellinge house of a tounish man. It was sumtyme the Bishop of Winchester's house."

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<sup>1</sup> Selected from a voluminous mass of information and added at the request of the publisher, who extended his original design in consequence of the number of subscribers having far exceeded his expectations.

*High-row*: the western side of the Market-place is so called from its having contained the principal houses of the town; and in proportion to its extent, by far the most valuable part of the manor. When all the manorial lands in Kingston yielded but £16, the High-row alone paid £5 6s. to the Corporation.

*Souter's-row*, or Shoemaker's-row: once Cook's-row, but more anciently Sobterey's-row from the name of the owner, is a portion of the eastern side of the Market-place.

*Gigg-hill*; so called as long ago as the reign of Elizabeth; is that portion of the town between the southern end of the Market-place and Heathen-street. The name is of very doubtful origin: the ground certainly rose some years ago from the Market-place towards Heathen-street; but hardly to a sufficient degree to warrant the appellation hill. Wantons were once called giggs.

*Heathen-street* is a very ancient name for the street running from the Mill-stream to the King's-arms; and is probably derived from the circumstance that Jews, formerly excluded from towns, and considered Heathens, dwelt here.

*Weston-park*: the name of a part of the town, at the junction of Heathen-street with the London-road, between Heathen-street and the Fair-field. A common name in other towns, and not improbably derived from a Public Whetstone, which may have stood on this spot, in feudal times, for the use of warriors or players at the public jousts, which were frequent at Kingston.

*Clattern Bridge*: this bridge was originally built of stone and called the Stone Bridge in contra-distinction from the Old Wooden Bridge over the Thames. The present name is perhaps a derivative from Clattering in allusion to the punishment here inflicted on talkative women (see p. 63).

*Hogg's-mill Stream*. The stream running between Norbiton and Surbiton, on which are the Oil-mills, (formerly called Chapel-mill), Middle-mill (now used for the manufacture of various articles from cocoa fibre, and formerly a flour-mill), and the Flour-mill long known as Hogg's-mill, from the name of a former proprietor.

*Latchmere-river*, now a ditch, carrying off the drainage from the western side of Kingston-hill, through Ham to the Thames at Petersham, was once called the Barre, being the defensive boundary of Kingston on that side.

*Gallows-hill*, the name by which the top of Kingston-hill was once known; because that after the gallows had been removed from their original site at Surbiton, they for some years stood between the High-road and Richmond-park wall near the present ladder stile.

## THAMESA.

Leland says, "the olde monumentes of the toun of Kingestone be founde yn the declyving doune from Come-park toward the galoyes (gallows); and there yn ploughing and diggid have very often beene founde fundation of waulles of houses," &c. &c. (see p. 7). On the same hill was a burial place of the Romans, where have frequently been discovered funeral urns and fragments of pottery about two feet below the surface. One of three urns found in 1670, was of an amber colour, and half filled with black ashes lying upon coarse hair. Very many similar remains were dug up in 1722.

## BRIDGE.

Dion Cassius, in his description of the invasion of Britain under A. Plautius, gives an account of a conflict which took place between the Romans and the Britons on the river Thames. It is impossible to recognize the precise spot at which this struggle took place; but, as the passage has been thought to refer to the first Bridge erected at Kingston, the narrative is given here at length. If the place at which Dion Cassius says the water stagnates be the spot at which the rise of the tide ceases to effect a change in the current of the river, (and it would seem at least probable, since at no other spot can the water be said to *stagnate*) the scene of the conflict would be at or near Teddington, and the *Bridge* a little farther up the river could be no other than that by tradition ascribed to Cæsar, situated at Kingston-on-Thames.

The passage runs thus— "The Britons then withdrew to the river Thames, where it falls into the sea, and, by the inward flow of the latter, stagnates. Knowing the firm and shallow places they easily passed over; but the Romans endeavouring to follow were imperilled. When however the

Gauls had crossed, partly by swimming and partly by a bridge a little higher up the river, and had attacked the Britons on every side, a great slaughter ensued. But the remainder of the army, more rashly following, fell into the swamps; and a great many men were lost."

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#### INSCRIPTIONS

On the effigies formerly preserved in the Chapel of St. Mary at Kingston (see p. 10).

King Athelstane, crowned in the Market-place in this town, Anno 925.

King Ethelred or Edred, crowned in this Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin, Anno 948.

King Edwin, crowned in this town, Anno 955.

King Edward the Martyr, crowned in this Chapel of St. Mary, Anno 975.

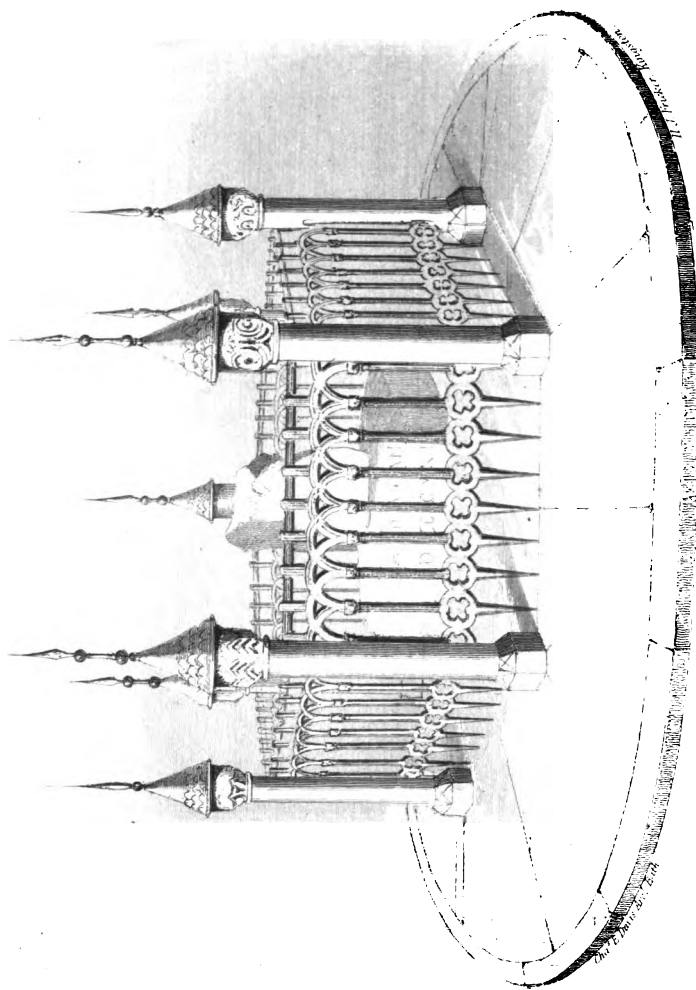
King Ethelred, crowned in this Chapel of St. Mary, Anno 978.

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#### KINGSTON METROPOLITAN.

Alfred, who had caused his second son Ethelwerd to be educated at Oxford, and who entertained for him considerable partiality, left him, by will, the government of the three counties, Devon, Somerset and Southants. Winchester had been for some time the place of Alfred's residence, and was then considered the metropolis of the country; but it would scarcely have been consistent with Edward's rights, as the elder brother and the sovereign elect of the whole nation, to have taken the crown in the chief city of a subordinate sovereignty. Kingston was already a place of considerable note; it was peculiarly the king's property; its inhabitants were his own people; it was an ancient town and had been secure against the inroads of the Danes while the rest of the country had been overrun; it commanded the passage of the Thames, and was greatly protected from the invasion of the Northmen by the obstacles interposed at London; and it was at the time a residence of the Bishop of Winchester, whose





*Pavilion of the Seven Springs.*

KINGSTON UPON THAMES



cathedral had been destroyed and was not entirely rebuilt at the time of Edward's accession. The selection of Kingston as a metropolis, under so many favorable circumstances, is by no means a matter for surprise; and Edward's happy reign and the still more glorious one of his successor Athelstane rivetted the attachment of the people to a town in which these kings had been consecrated.

Dunstan's disloyal treatment of his sovereign Edwy, on the day of coronation, and the subsequent troubles into which that turbulent priest fell, were calculated to render Kingston odious to him: hence Edwy's successor, who was not by any means a favorite with the prelate, was first (without much ceremony) crowned by Odo at Kingston, and thirteen years afterwards, when Dunstan became reconciled to the king, or rather convinced of the policy of appearing in his favour, the coronation was performed a second time with greater solemnity at Bath, the nearest city to Dunstan's Abbey of Glastonbury.

The Danish kings who claimed a crown in this island, took possession of it when and where they could prevail upon a bishop to bestow it; and the Norman sovereigns, under the pressure of circumstances, and partly out of distaste for the old Saxon town, removed the court to Westminster.

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#### THE CORONATION STONE.

In the year 1850, this Stone, which had for a long time been suffered to lie in the New Court yard, was removed to a hitherto vacant spot opposite the Savings' Bank, where it is now preserved within a suitable iron railing. The Stone is partially sunk into a heptagonal pyramid, on whose faces are the names of seven of the Kings crowned in the town: and, through the liberality of the Curator of the British Museum, a coin of each sovereign is inserted in the face of the pyramid above the sovereign's name.

The day on which this monument was completed, was observed as a general holiday in the neighbourhood; commemorative medals struck for the occasion were distributed among the children of the Parochial Schools, with copies of the following lines, written by C. J. Fenner, esq., of Hampton-wick.

THE  
**GREEN STONE,**  
 AN  
 HISTORICAL COLLOQUY.

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KINGSTONIAN:—

What's in thy flinty face, Old Stone,  
 That thou, no longer scorn'd and lone,  
 Art thus uplifted from the mire,  
 From dirt and desecration dire,  
 On carved plinth and column fair,  
 Like monarch in a regal chair?  
 Say! Is the relic fam'd of Scone  
 Allied at all to thee, Old Stone?  
 Say! Wast thou from the lunar world  
 A meteoric fragment hurl'd;  
 Or from a misty mountain-brow  
 In thunder launch'd on plains below?  
 Did icebergs in the deluge land  
 Thy floating mass on Surrey strand?  
 Or from what quarry, sunk in night,  
 Did pickaxe delve thee into light?  
 Can science geologic trace  
 Aught wondrous in thy form and face?  
 Thy weight—perchance, 'tis half a ton,  
 Of silix, too—but beauty—none  
 Is thine to boast . . . . .

OLD STONE:—

. . . . Vain Querist, cease  
 Thy taunts, and let me rest in peace!  
 A thing of weight am I—no scoff  
 Can shake my stern composure off!

I may not tell thee whence I came,  
 But this I tell thee to thy shame,  
 Full thirty generations now  
 Are past from earth of such as thou,  
 Potsherds of perishable clay,  
 That sun and storm can fret away,  
 While I with front unscath'd remain,  
 To check thy ever-braggart strain!  
 Then listen, and I'll trace to thee  
 An outline of my history—  
 Long did the Bardic Druid rove,  
 Unaw'd by Rome, the sacred grove;  
 With golden knife from oaken bough  
 Long cut the "all-heal" \* mistletoe.  
 Then 'neath the rampant oak I lay  
 In temples canopied by day  
 (Those roofless temples, deem'd a shrine  
 Adapted best to things divine);  
 Ere the tall pulpit rose of wood,  
 On me the lecturing Druid stood,  
 And shew'd his proselyte the store  
 Of bardic law and mystic lore;  
 Or the soul's deathless being taught,  
 That truth beyond the span of thought.  
 Roman and Druid pass'd away—  
 The Saxon came—intact I lay—  
 To Odin, Thor, and Frea dread,  
 On ME the offer'd victim bled.  
 Lo! while his Heptarchy in vain  
 Strives in divided might to reign,  
 By ambush slain in Merton bow'r,  
 Victim to beauty's magic power,  
 King ~~Ænulf~~† falls by Kynard's steel,  
 Kynard must Kingstone's vengeance feel.  
 Its loyal Thanes around ME kneel,  
 The Kingstone Thanes to Merton ride  
 For vengeance on that regicide:  
 Lord Osric and his fiery Thanes  
 Wreak vengeance o'er their Lord's remains.  
 Again—three hundred years are flown—  
 The struggling Heptarchy is gone—  
 Nor France, nor Rome, nor Charlemagne,  
 Can ~~Ægbert~~‡ from his home retain:

\* The powder of the mistletoe was considered a panacea. Hence it was termed in Irish, "uil-iceath" and in Welch "ol hyach," or "all heal."

† The particulars of this King's murder, and of the vengeance of the Kingston Thanes, are detailed in the history of the Kings of Wessex, A. D. 754 to 755.

‡ Egbert was on a visit at Rome with Charlemagne, when he received the offer of the crown of the West Saxons, A.D. 800.

Summon'd, return'd, at Winton crown'd,  
 He reigns sole lord on Albion's ground.  
 I say not that he sat on me,  
 Nor **Alfred**, his great progeny.  
 I say not that he "did" transfer  
 The Kyngge'stone from Winchester.  
 But **Alfred's** first-born \* (great and free,  
 E'en as his Sire), enrob'd on me,  
 Was 'nointed, crown'd and hail'd "the King"  
 By Priest and Thane in armed ring.  
 Lov'd **Ethelfleda**† on him smil'd,  
 His heroine sister, victory's child,  
 Who, foremost in each field of fame,  
 With glory's laurel twin'd her name.  
 Next **Athelstane**,‡ (to **Edward** brave,  
 Whom the fair shepherd's daughter gave,)  
 On ME receives the Saxon crown  
 From blue-ey'd Thane and Ceorl brown.  
 Then did the Cumbrian, Scot, and Dane,  
 Combine against our **Athelstane**.  
 Yea! Cumbrian Owen, Constantine  
 The Scot, and Danish Anlaf, line  
 The tented field, but all in vain;  
 They fall, or flee from **Athelstane**. §  
 Yet cried he, when the fray was done,  
 "To grant a realm than conquer one  
 "Were better far"—then wise ordain'd  
 The "Book of Life" should be unchain'd  
 From ev'ry foreign shackle free  
 In Saxon's pure simplicity.  
 Why need I **Leolf's** knife relate,  
 The banquet, brawl, and **Edmund's** || fate?  
 How **Dunstan** in the bloom of spring  
 On ME anointed **Edred** \*\* King?  
 Why tell thee **Edwy's** †† fate forlorn,  
 Husband and wife asunder torn,  
 Or bigot **Dunstan's** ruthless hand,  
 Or **Ethelgiva's** burning brand?  
 Enough I've told—'twere vain to say  
 How Saxon monarchs passed away,

\* Edward the Elder, crowned at Kingston, by Plegmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, A.D. 900.

† For the history of this warlike princess, see the Saxon History, A.D. 911 to 914. She possessed the merits of Zenobia, without her faults.

‡ Crowned at Kingston by Athelm, Archbishop of Canterbury, A.D. 925.

§ This battle, fought at Weodune, near Brunbury, in Northumberland, A.D. 938, was the Saxon Waterloo, and certainly the most sanguinary and decisive one during the Heptarchy. It lasted from morning till night without intermission.—Constantine was severely wounded.—Anlaf and Owen with difficulty escaped to their ships, while five princes, seven dukes, and twelve earls were left on the field.

|| Edmund crowned with great solemnity, at Kingston, A.D. 942.

\*\* Edred crowned at Kingston, by Odo, Archbishop of Canterbury, A.D. 948.

†† Edwy surnamed Pancalus, or "the All-beautiful," crowned by Odo, A.D. 955.

How the pale sun of glory set  
 On Normandy's Plantagenet!  
 How quench'd is all the fiery stir  
 Of Tudor, York, and Lancaster.  
 Ne'er more unutterable things  
 Shall he that made or unmade kings,  
 Ponder on ME, the uncontrol'd,  
 Stern Warwick, \* last of Barons bold.  
 Stuarts and Cromwell—all—away  
 Are moulder'd in their native clay.  
 Now in our own Victoria's reign  
 My place of glory I regain;  
 Victoria and her Albert see  
 A relic of their Sires in ME!  
 Yes! glory's halo bright is shed  
 Imperishably round my bed;  
 Tho' neither gem, nor purple glow  
 In grand tiara round my brow.  
 The winds may rage, the flood descend,  
 I shall endure to glory's end.  
 Then, Querist, deign me thy respect;  
 The past and present I connect.  
 I stand—the simplest type of pow'r  
 In Sov'reignty's primæval hour.  
 Kingstonian! thy town and name  
 Shall last coëval with my fame.  
 Deem not unmeaningly I'm sav'd;  
 Deem not thro' rolling years I've brav'd  
 The elements for nought, unscarr'd  
 By storm, nor axe nor chisel marr'd.  
 Around me Druid's harp no more,  
 Nor Saxon lay, nor Troubadour  
 Resounds . . . . .

# KINGSTONIAN:—

Enough! thy wrongs I feel,  
 But soon shall England's anthem peal  
 From ev'ry loyal British breast  
 Around thy rev'rend couch of rest.  
 Let London nor let Scotland boast  
 Its stone; in thee we have a host;  
 Thou hast no peer on earth beside.  
 To guard thee well will be our pride:  
 We own thee, like Victoria's throne,  
 Our Constitution's CORNER-STONE!

\* From the fact that this nobleman had a palace here, it may be assumed, poetice, that he had his musings by the stone. A ring which has every appearance of having been his signet-ring, was lately found here, and is now in the possession of Mr. SAMUEL RANYARD.

## THE ARMS OF KINGSTON.

Three Salmons in pale, with the letter K in point. Mr. Berry, in his *Encyclopædia Heraldica*, under the article *Cities*<sup>m</sup> describes the Kingston Arms as “Three Salmons haurient, in pale;” but he errs in saying *haurient*, for that implies that the fish are in an upright position; and Brayley, in endeavouring to correct Berry, erroneously describes the fish as fesseways; the term fesseways being employed only in speaking of an object in the *centre* of the shield.

In the Corporation Seal, the Town Arms appear as a kind of inescutcheon; the Three Lions of England being placed around it, each in its proper position as the inscription is read— \* S : COMUNITATIS : VILLE DE KYNGESTON : SUPER : CAMBRIAM \*

The Arms of the *Chamber* contained Three Salmons in pale, in chief the letter K and a Tun : as represented on the title page.

The Salmon was formerly caught here in considerable numbers: and it is mentioned as an article of trade many years before Henry VI granted the town a Charter of Incorporation.

## THE COUNCIL OF WAR UNDER FAIRFAX.

From Rushworth's *Historical Collections*, Part III.

“A declaration of his Excellency Sir Thomas Fairfax and the Council of War, against a printed pamphlet, pretending authority from the army, to dispossess or interrupt such Ministers as are put into Sequestered Livings, by a Parliament, or authority derived from them.”

“Whereas it appears, by sufficient proof, that many violent tumults and outrages are committed by several persons, against diverse Ministers, placed by order or ordinance of Parliament in Sequestered Livings, and for their such violent carriage to, and detaining from the said Ministers their profits, there is pretended by the said parties power and authority from the General and the Army; and for the more plausible justifying of their undue pretences therein, have caused to be printed and published a pamphlet intituled Two Petitions of

<sup>m</sup> A *City* is a Town whose Church is or has been used as a Metropolitan. Kingston is therefore a *City* (see p.p. 8 and 9).

the Sequestered Clergy of England and Wales, one to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, and the other to Sir Thomas Fairfax, with a pretended Declaration of the General and his Council of War thereupon ; of all which actions we cannot but testify a very ill resentment ; and do hereby declare a dislike of such proceedings, declaring not only against themselves having had any encouragement from us, but also any ends or intentions to that purpose ; and to the further clearing of ourselves herein, we shall henceforth endeavour the bringing to condign punishment such who have or shall express the like, upon any pretence whatsoever."

"By the appointment of his

Excellency Sir Thomas Fairfax and his Council of War  
JOHN RUSHWORTH.

"Kingston-upon-Thames,  
Aug. 12, 1647."

"Aug. 28.—The General and Council of War sat very close yesterday at Kingston, about Irelande, and for the sending over a speedy and considerable strength into that kingdom: a business the army had before in their thoughts, and were so far in preparation of, as that had not the late troubles in the City interrupted, we might have had before this time a gallant force in Irelande, to prosecute the late victory obtained against the rebels by Colonel Jones. However, the army, as well to testify their real intention in order to the service of Irelande as to the obtaining a firm Peace here, have again resolved to set upon the work, and as you may see by the letter of the General to the Speaker of the House of Commons, they will have 6000 foot and 2000 horse in readiness when the Parliament shall appoint the time, and place, with necessary provisions, and accommodation for their transportation for the service of Ireland."

"THE GENERAL'S LETTER."

"Mr. Speaker,"

"Upon consideration of the present advantage that may be made through the goodness of God, of this last success which it hath pleased the Lord to give to the forces in Ireland, I have thereupon advised with my Council of War, how the forces in this kingdom might be improved for that service ; and I find that there will be in a readiness for that service to the number of 6000 foot and 2000 horse, which, if

they may have encouragement, will be ready to go as soon as you shall be pleased to command them. I do therefore desire you would move the House to take some effectual course for the providing of monies and other necessaries, and for the removing of all obstructions; and for the more clear and quick proceedings in this so important a work, I shall appoint a certain number of officers to wait upon such as the House shall appoint, to consult upon the whole business, if you shall think fit."

"I remain, your most humble servant,  
THOS. FAIRFAX."

Rushworth informs us that the General immediately afterwards removed his head quarters from Kingston to Putney as "they were at Kingston too much pressed and crowded by the great resort of people."

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#### THE CHURCH SPIRE.

Aubrey, in his *Antiquities of the County of Surrey*, says of this spire "Here is a leaden steeple, the height whereof was taken by Mr. Chelsham of this town, trigonometrically, which he told me; but I have lost it, and he is since dead. But here was one Wiltshire (of the Feathers) did, about the year 1671 throw a stone over the weathercock, standing in the Church-yard, on the north side near the Church. He would also throw a stone over the Thames (by the Bridge) and struck the pales on the town side, which (I think) was not so difficult as the other throw. He was then of middle stature and about thirty years of age."

This method of measuring a height is, when compared with the pretensions of the parties, not more absurd than that adopted during the recent Ordnance Survey, when the height of the Church tower was measured by a line and plummet, first from the top of the tower to the roof, and then from the roof to the ground outside the Church: the standard bench mark being in the interior of the building!

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THE  
MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION OF KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES,  
MAY 1852.

Mayor:  
WILLIAM PEPPER, Esq.

High-Steward:  
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE EDWARD BURTENSHAW, Baron St. Leonard's.

Recorder:  
WILLIAM THOMAS JEMMETT, Esq.

Aldermen, Common Council, &c.

THOMAS FRICKER, Esq. ....	}	Aldermen of the Town Ward.
THOMAS JACKSON, Esq. ....		
WILLIAM SUDLOW ROOTS, Esq. ....	}	Aldermen of the Ham Ward.
GEORGE NIGHTINGALE, Esq. ....		
RICHARD GALLEY, Esq. ....	}	Aldermen of the Surbiton Ward.
WILLIAM BEALE JONES, Esq. ....		
MR. WILLIAM PAMPHILON .....	}	Councillors of the Town Ward.
MR. SAMUEL RANTYARD .....		
MR. RICHARD HOBBS ..		
MR. THOMAS LEONARD .....		
MR. WILLIAM SHRUBSOLE .....		
MR. JOHN SHRUBSOLE .....		
MR. JOSEPH BROWN SMITH .....	}	Councillors of the Ham Ward.
MR. JOHN EDMONDS .....		
MR. JOSEPH HOLLINGDALE .....		
MR. THOMAS TINDAL WALKER .....		
MR. EDWARD PHILLIPS .....		
MR. EDMUND LOWE .....	}	Councillors of the Surbiton Ward.
MR. THOMAS HUNTER FRICKER .....		
MR. WILLIAM PEPPER .....		
MR. WILLIAM WELCH .....		
MR. FREDERICK GOULD .....		
MR. SAMUEL MITCHELL .....		
MR. HENRY BROWN .....	}	Justices of the Borough.
THE MAYOR for the time being .....		
WILLIAM ROOTS, Doctor of Physic .....		
ROBERT HENRY JENKINSON, Esq. ....		
THOMAS FRICKER, Esq. ....		
JOHN KING, Esq. ....		
JAMES NIGHTINGALE, Esq. ....	}	Town Clerk.
WILLIAM BEALE JONES, Esq. ....		
CHARLES EDWARD JEMMETT, Esq. ....	}	Treasurer.
WILLIAM WALTER, Esq. ....		

## BAILIFFS AND MAYORS FROM 1700 TO THE PRESENT TIME:

With the Mayors of London for the corresponding years, (and the price of Bread at the commencement of each Mayoralty for a period of sixty-years) extracted from the Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall.

Date of Year.	LORD MAYORS OF LONDON.	BAILIFFS OF KINGSTON.	Price of Bread.
			<i>s. d.</i>
1700	Sir Thomas Abney .....	Edward Hopkins and William Charlwood..	
1701	Sir William Gore.....	Richard Norman and William Salter .....	
1702	Sir Samuel Dashwood .....	William Reeves and John Hawkins .....	
1703	Sir John Parsons .....	William Charlwood and James Anstall .....	
1704	Sir Owen Buckingham .....	John Lamb and William King .....	
1705	Sir Thomas Rawlinson .....	William Reeves and John Philby .....	
1706	Sir Robert Beddingfield .....	Thomas Agan and William Hook .....	
1707	Sir William Withers .....	Richard Norman and John Carpenter .....	
1708	Sir Charles Duncombe .....	Charles Salter and John Crutsher .....	
1709	Sir Samuel Gerrard.....	John Lidgould and William Oram .....	
1710	Sir Gilbert Heathcote.....	John Philby and Stephen South.....	
1711	Sir Robert Beachcroft.....	William Francks and Hunt, senr .....	
1712	Sir Richard Hoare .....	John Lock and John Lidgould .....	
1713	Sir Samuel Stanier.....	William Oram and Brassett.....	
1714	Sir William Humphreys, Kt & Bt	William Francks and Edward Woodman ..	
1715	Sir Charles Peers.....	John Lamb and John Bamford .....	
1716	Sir James Bateman.....	Stephen South and John Bowles.....	
1717	Sir William Lewen .....	Edward London and James Belchier .....	
1718	Sir John Ward .....	John Bowles and William Reeves .....	
1719	Sir George Thorold, Knt & Bart	Stephen South and Edward London .....	
1720	Sir John Fryer, Bart.....	Edward Woodman and William Cockson..	
1721	Sir William Stewart .....	William Oram, senr. and Bartlett .....	
1722	Sir Gerard Conyers.....	William Francks and Edward Woodman ..	
1723	Sir Peter Delmé .....	Stephen South and Bartholomew Siggins ..	
1724	Sir George Merttins .....	John Lidgould and Edward London .....	
1725	Sir Francis Forbes .....	Thomas Cooke and William Francks .....	
1726	Sir John Eyles.....	John Lidgould and Edward London .....	
1727	Sir Edward Beecher .....	Bartholomew Siggins and William Browne..	
1728	Sir Robert Baylis .....	John Lidgould and William Pearson .....	
1729	Sir Richard Brocas .....	James Belchier and Bartholomew Siggins ..	
1730	Humphrey Parsons.....	Thomas Cooke and William Astor .....	
1731	Sir Francis Child.....	Charles Curr and John Carpenter .....	
1732	John Barber .....	Thomas Wilson and George Stroud .....	
1733	Sir William Billers .....	Edward London and John Carpenter.....	
1734	Sir Edward Bellamy .....	James Belchier and John Hall .....	
1735	Sir John Williams .....	William Browne and Thomas King .....	0 5½
1736	Sir John Thompson .....	William Browne and Thomas Tilsly .....	0 5½
1737	Sir John Barnard .....	George Roades and George Stone .....	0 5½
1738	Micajah Perry .....	William Francks and Thomas Sockett .....	0 5½
1739	Sir John Salter .....	Charles Curr and George Stone .....	0 6
1740	Humphrey Parsons, died } Daniel Lambert .....	Edward London and William Browne .....	0 7½
1741	Sir Robert Godschall, died.. } George Heathcote .....	William Browne and Thomas Tilsly .....	0 5½
1742	Robert Willmott .....	Charles Curr and William Farmer .....	0 4½
1743	Sir Robert Westley.....	Edward London and George Roades .....	0 4½
1744	Sir Henry Marshall.....	William Browne and John Hall .....	0 4½
1745	Sir Richard Hoare .....	William Farmer and Edward Nettlefold....	0 4½
1746	William Benn .....	George Roades and John Bowles .....	0 5½
1747	Sir Robert Ladbroke .....	John Hall and William Farmer .....	0 5
1748	Sir William Calvert .....	George Stone and Edward Nettlefold.....	0 6

Date of Year.	LORD MAYORS OF LONDON.	BAILIFFS OF KINGSTON.	Price of Bread.
			s. d.
1749	Sir Samuel Pennant, died .. } John Blachford .....	George Stone and Edward Nettlefold .....	0 5½
1750	Francis Cockayne .....	William Francks and George Roades .....	0 5½
1751	Thomas Winterbottom, died } Robert Alsop .....	Thomas Hall and Henry Parsons .....	0 6
1752	Sir Crisp Gascoyne .....	Edward Nettlefold and Richard Wellbrough .....	0 5½
1753	Edward Ironside, died .. } Thomas Rawlinson .....	George Roades and William Browne .....	0 6
1754	Stephen Theodore Janssen .....	George Stone and Edward Nettlefold .....	0 5
1755	Slingsby Bethell .....	George Roades and John Linfield .....	0 5
1756	Marsha Dickinson .....	Richard Wellbrough and William Browne .....	0 7½
1757	Sir Charles Asgill .....	Edward Nettlefold and Stephen Marks .....	0 7½
1758	Sir Richard Glynn, Knt & Bart .....	George Stone and John Linfield .....	0 6
1759	Sir Thomas Chitty .....	Edward Nettlefold and Richard Wellbrough .....	0 5
1760	Sir Matthew Blackiston .....	John Linfield and Stephen Marks .....	0 5½
1761	Sir Samuel Fludyer, Knt & Bart .....	Edward Nettlefold and William Browne .....	0 4½
1762	William Beckford .....	John Linfield and Stephen Marks .....	0 5½
1763	William Bridgen .....	Robert Hester and William Farmer .....	0 6
1764	Sir William Stevenson .....	Edward Nettlefold and John Linfield .....	0 6½
1765	George Nelson .....	Robert Hester and William Farmer .....	0 7
1766	Sir Robert Kite .....	Edward Nettlefold and Stephen Marks .....	0 8
1767	Right Hon. Thomas Harley .....	John Linfield and Richard Ogborn .....	0 8½
1768	Samuel Turner .....	William Farmer and Thomas Forth .....	0 6½
1769	William Beckford, died .... } Barlow Trecothick .....	William Browne and John Linfield .....	0 6
1770	Brass Crosby .....	Stephen Marks and Robert Hester .....	0 6½
1771	William Nash .....	John Linfield and John Penner .....	0 7½
1772	James Townsend .....	Stephen Marks and Stint Sutton .....	0 8
1773	Frederick Bull .....	John Penner and Joseph Ryley .....	0 7½
1774	John Wilkes .....	John Clark and Edward Townsend .....	0 8
1775	John Sawbridge .....	Joseph Ryley and Joseph Mackrill .....	0 6½
1776	Sir Thomas Hallifax .....	John Clark and Edward Townsend .....	0 6½
1777	Sir James Esdaile .....	Moses Waite and Thomas Waterhouse .....	0 7½
1778	Samuel Plumbe .....	Joseph Ryley and William Smith .....	0 6½
1779	Brackley Kennett .....	Edward Townsend and Thomas Waterhouse .....	0 5½
1780	Sir Watkin Lewes .....	John Clark and John Rockwell .....	0 7½
1781	William Plomer .....	John Burcombe and Robert Ranyard .....	0 7
1782	Nathaniel Newnham .....	Joseph Mackrill and Francis Searle .....	0 8½
1783	Robert Peckham .....	William Stevens and John Linfield .....	0 7½
1784	Richard Clark .....	Francis Searle and Stephen Wedge .....	0 7½
1785	Thomas Wright .....	Joseph Mackrill and Joseph Bradshaw .....	0 6½
1786	Thomas Sainsbury .....	Francis Searle and Edward Sergeant .....	0 6
1787	John Burnell .....	Joseph Mackrill and Christopher Athyns .....	0 6½
1788	William Gill .....	Francis Searle and Richard Westrope .....	0 6½
1789	William Pickett .....	Joseph Mackrill and Joseph Bradshaw .....	0 7½
1790	John Boydell .....	Francis Searle and Thomas Ryley .....	0 7½
1791	John Hopkins .....	Joseph Bradshaw and Richard Westrope .....	0 6½
1792	Sir James Sanderson .....	Francis Searle and Samuel Wood .....	0 7½
1793	Paul Le Mesurier .....	Thomas Ryley and James Forth .....	0 7½
1794	Thomas Skinner .....	Joseph Mackrill and Francis Searle .....	0 7½
1795	*William Curtis .....	Stephen Hedge and Joseph Bradshaw .....	1 0½
1796	Brook Watson .....	Thomas Hemming and Peter Sidebotham .....	0 8½
1797	John William Anderson .....	Joseph Bradshaw and Thomas Bushell .....	0 9½
1798	Sir Richard Carr Glynn .....	Christopher Bythewood and James Cook .....	0 8
1799	Harvey Christian Combe .....	Peter Sidebotham and Henry Bye .....	1 1
1800	Sir William Staines .....	Joseph Bradshaw and James Cook .....	1 10½
1801	Sir John Eamer .....	Peter Sidebotham and Thomas Ayliffe .....	} always above 1s.
1802	*Charles Price .....	Francis Searle and Joseph Bradshaw .....	
1803	*John Perring .....	James Cook and The Rev. Thomas Wilson .....	
1804	Peter Perchard .....	Peter Sidebotham and Richard Portman .....	

Those marked \* were made Baronets in Mayoralty.

Date of Year.	LORD MAYORS OF LONDON.	BAILIFFS OF KINGSTON.	Price of Bread
1805	*James Shaw.....	Henry Bye and The Rev. Thomas Wilson..	s. d. always above 1s.
1806	Sir William Leighton.....	Peter Sidebotham and James Cook.....	
1807	John Ansley.....	Thomas Bushell and Martin Ward.....	
1808	*Charles Flower.....	James Cook and The Rev. Thomas Wilson	
1809	Thomas Smith.....	Peter Sidebotham and William Varden....	
1810	Joshua Jonathan Smith.....	The Rev. Thomas Wilson and Josiah Stevens	
1811	*Claudius Stephen Hunter.....	Henry Bullock and William Varden.....	
1812	George Scholey.....	Peter Sidebotham and The Rev. T. Wilson	
1813	*William Domville.....	Thomas Bushell and Martin Ward.....	
1814	Samuel Birch.....	The Rev. T. Wilson and Richard Muggeridge	
1815	*Matthew Wood..... {	Peter Sidebotham and William Varden....	
1816		The Rev. T. Wilson and Richard Muggeridge	
1817	Christopher Smith.....	The Rev. T. Wilson and Richard Muggeridge	
1818	John Atkins.....	The Rev. Thomas Wilson and John Fricker	
1819	George Bridges.....	Charles N. Pallmer and William Roots, Esqs.	
1820	John Thomas Thorp.....	Joseph Bradshaw and William Walton....	
1821	Christopher Magnay.....	Thomas Bushell and The Rev. T. Wilson..	
1822	*William Heygate.....	Harry Selfe and Charles White Taylor....	
1823	Robert Waithman.....	The Rev. Thomas Wilson and Edward Kent	
1824	John Garratt.....	William Walton and Charles White Taylor..	
1825	William Venables.....	Harry Selfe and The Rev. Thomas Wilson..	
1826	Anthony Brown.....	James Fricker and John French.....	
1827	Matthias Prime Lucas.....	The Rev. T. Wilson and W. H. Kempster..	
1828	William Thompson.....	Harry Selfe and Thomas Fricker.....	
1829	John Crowder.....	Charles White Taylor and William Pepper..	
1830	*John Key..... {	William Beale Jones and Thomas Fricker..	
1831		Alexander Raphael and William Walton....	
1832	Sir Peter Laurie.....	Thomas Fricker and William Beale Jones..	
1833	Charles Farebrother.....	William Shrubsole and William Mercer....	
1834	Henry Winchester.....	Thomas Fricker and John King.....	
1835	William Taylor Copeland....	Thomas Fricker and John King.....	

MAYORS OF KINGSTON UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION  
ACT SINCE 1836:—

Date of Year.	LORD MAYORS OF LONDON.	MAYORS OF KINGSTON.
1835	.....	Thomas Fricker.....
1836	Thomas Kelly.....	Charles Schofield.....
1837	*John Cowen.....	James Nightingale.....
1838	Samuel Wilson.....	
1839	Sir Chapman Marshall.....	William Mercer.....
1840	Thomas Johnson.....	John King.....
1841	*John Pirie.....	William Beale Jones.....
1842	John Humphery.....	Thomas Fricker.....
1843	*William Magnay.....	William Row.....
1844	Michael Gibbs.....	
1845	John Johnson.....	Thomas Jackson.....
1846	Sir George Carroll.....	George Nightingale.....
1847	John Kinnersley Hooper.....	Samuel Ranyard.....
1848	*Sir James Duke, Knt. ....	William Shrubsole.....
1849	Thomas Farncomb.....	William Pamphilon.....
1850	*John Musgrove.....	Joseph Hollingdale.....
1851	William Hunter.....	William Pepper.....

Those marked \* were made Baronets in Marquialty.

## HIGH-STEWARDS.

26th Elizabeth, 1584.—Notice taken in a Book of Inrolment of Leases and other Grants of CHARLES Lord Howard of Effingham, being then High Steward. [ob. at Haling, December 13, 1624, æ. 88.

4th Charles, 1628.—Notice taken in the Charter, granted by King Charles I. to the town of Kingston, that CHARLES Earl of Nottingham, son of the former, was then High Steward of the said town. died October 1642.

11th March, 1657.—THE RIGHT HON. CHARLES Lord Fleetwood, chosen in the room of the Earl of Nottingham, his half-brother, who resigned.

27th July, 1670.—THE RIGHT HON. Earl of Manchester, chosen on the resignation of Lord Fleetwood.

15th May, 1671.—THE RIGHT HON. HENRY JERMYN, Earl of St. Albans, chosen on the death of the Earl of Manchester.

7th January, 1683.—THE RIGHT HON. Earl of Arlington, chosen on the death of the Earl of St. Albans.

28th August, 1685.—ROBERT, Earl of Aylesbury, by King James the II's Charter. He died the 20th of October following.

28th October, 1685.—THE RIGHT HON. GEORGE Earl of Dartmouth, chosen on the death of the Earl of Aylesbury.

24th January 1688.—THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM Earl of Devonshire, chosen on the deprivation of Lord Dartmouth.

29th September, 1707.—THE HON. EDWARD HARVEY, Esq., chosen on the death of the Duke of Devonshire.

11th March 1736-7.—THE RIGHT HON. ARTHUR ONSLOW, Esq. on the death of Edward Harvey.

18th August, 1768.—THE RIGHT HON. GEORGE, 1st Earl of Onslow, on the death of the Right Hon. Arthur Onslow, his father.

1816.—THE RIGHT HON. ROBERT BANKS, 2nd Earl of Liverpool, [ob. December 4th, 1828.

1829.—THE RIGHT HON. CHARLES CECIL COPE, 3rd Earl of Liverpool. [ob. October 3rd, 1851.

1851.—THE RIGHT HONORABLE EDWARD BURTENSHAW, Baron St. Leonard's.

## RECORDERS.

1618.—SIR ANTHONY BENN, who died in this year had been Recorder.

1638.—ROBERT HATTON, occurs in Charter 14, Charles I.

September, 1660.—He was succeeded by THOMAS EDWARDS, Esq. who died about May, 1661.

1661.—EDWARD THURLAND, Esq. was chosen.

December, 1672.—SIR RICHARD HATTON, KNT. who died in December, 1676.

Dec. 1676.—WILLIAM HATTON, Esq. was chosen.

Nov 8th, 1684.—FRANCIS BROWN, Esq. was chosen.

On the 12th of November, 1685.—Under the new Charter SIR FRANCIS WITHINS, one of the Judges of the King's Bench was appointed. RICHARD HEATH Esq. of Hatchlands in this County, acted as Deputy Recorder in that year and part of the following; in the latter part of which, RICHARD GARTH, Esq. was Deputy. On the 25th of March, 1688, the King by order of the Council, removed WITHINS, and by another order next day required the Mayor and Corporation to choose

ROBERT POWER, Esq. He held the office only to the Michaelmas following; when the King, finding it necessary to recall the Charters he had granted, and to restore the old ones.

On the 20th of October, FRANCIS BROWN, of the Inner Temple, London, Esq. resumed his office.

On the 13th of January, 1706-7.—JOSEPH AYLOFF, of Grays Inn, Esq. was chosen.

18th August, 1726. NICHOLAS HARDINGE, of the Middle Temple, London, Esq. He died April 15, 1758.

July 27th, 1758.—ELLIOTT BISHOP, of the Middle Temple, London, Esq. [ob. August, 1776.

October 24th, 1776.—THOMAS EVANCE, of the Middle Temple, London, Esq. [ob. March 27, 1830.

GEORGE ROOTS, of the Inner Temple, London, Esq. was elected in 1830. [ob. October 30, 1831.

WILLIAM THOMAS JEMMETT, of the Middle Temple, London, Esq. the present Recorder, was elected in 1831.

## TOWN CLERKS.

WILLIAM NUTHALL; and on his resignation

October 27, 1688.—GEORGE CHARLWOOD, who resigned

September 16, 1702.—JOHN NUTHALL.

September 19, 1718.—JOHN NUTHALL.

February, 14, 1727.—WILLIAM CHARLWOOD, and on his death

July 24, 1747.—CHARLES JEMMETT, Esq. who resigned.

December 18, 1789.—CHARLES JEMMETT, Esq. [ob. February 26, 1825.

CHARLES EDWARD JEMMETT, Esq. his Son, who is the present Town Clerk.

## CHURCHWARDENS FROM 1700 TO THE PRESENT DATE.

1700	Nathaniel Coulson and William Kirke	1763	Thomas Ryley
1701	William Kirke and Peter Paterson	1764	Thomas Ryley
1702	Thomas Tilsley and Thomas Dixon	1765	John Smith and William Stevens
1703	Thomas Tilsley and Thomas Browne	1766	John Smith and William Stevens
1704	James Carpenter and Robert Banford	1767	John Smith and William Stevens
1705	Robert Banford and John Bowles	1768	Thomas Peters and John Piggott
1706	John Bowles and Henry Lidgould	1769	Thomas Peters and John Piggott
1707	Henry Lidgould and Terence Mahon	1770	Thomas Peters and John Piggott
1708	Henry Lidgould and Terence Mahon	1771	Thomas Peters and John Piggott
1709	Terence Mahon and Edward Woodman	1772	John Clark and Francis Searle
1710	Edward Woodman and William Francks	1773	John Clark and Francis Searle
1711	Edward Woodman and Barth. Siggins	1774	Francis Searle and Joseph Ryley
1712	Bartholomew Siggins and Geo. Roades	1775	Francis Searle and Joseph Ryley
1713	George Roades and Edward Hunt	1776	Francis Searle and Joseph Ryley
1714	Edward Hunt and Thomas Cooke	1777	Francis Searle and Joseph Ryley
1715	Thomas Cooke and Thomas Browne	1778	Francis Searle and Joseph Ryley
1716	Thomas Stroud and Henry Browne	1779	Francis Searle and William Smith
1717	Henry Browne and William Northloo	1780	Francis Searle and John Tallemach
1718	William Northloo and Thomas King	1781	John Tallemach and Richard Westrope
1719	Edmund Goodall and George Roades	1782	John Tallemach and Richard Westrope
1720	Edmund Goodall and George Roades	1783	Richard Westrope and Henry Rose
1721	Edmund Goodall and George Roades	1784	Samuel Wood and William Tallemach
1722	Edmund Goodall and George Roades	1785	William Farnham and John Baker
1723	Jeremy Freeland and Thomas Singer	1786	Richard Westrope and Edw. Sargeant
1724	Thomas Singer and Thomas Jeffries	1787	Richard Westrope and Edw. Sargeant
1725	Jacob White and Thomas Sockett	1788	George Smith and George Parker
1726	Jacob White and David Stone	1789	Philip Yarnold and Thomas Bushell
1727	Jacob White and William Pierson	1790	Thomas Smith and Thomas Bushell
1728	William Salter and Septimus Goding	1791	Christopher Bythewood and T. Allen
1729	Septimus Goding and Thomas Stone	1792	William Tallemach and Wm. French
1730	William Harvest and James Preest	1793	William Tallemach and Wm. French
1731	William Harvest and James Preest	1794	Henry Bye
1732	William Harvest and James Preest	1795	Henry Bye and William Scott
1733	William Harvest and James Preest	1796	Henry Bye and William Scott
1734	William Harvest and James Preest	1797	William Scott and Richard Portman
1735	Ralph Porter and Philip Soakes	1798	Thomas Stevens and John Jolly
1736	John Bowles and Robert Tilsly	1799	Thomas Stevens and John Jolly
1737	Robert Tilsly and George Stone	1800	Roger Carter and William Cobbett
1738	John Bowles and George Stone	1801	Martin Ward and George Verling
1739	William Nettlefold and Thomas Francks	1802	Martin Ward and George Verling
1740	Charles Cook and William Browne	1803	Martin Ward and John Earl
1741	Charles Cook and William Browne	1804	John Cheney and William French
1742	William Browne and John Wornom	1805	John Cheney and Martin Ward
1743	John Wornom and Thomas Walter	1806	John Cheney and William French
1744	Thomas Walter and William Mundy	1807	William French and James Edmonds
1745	Thomas Walter and William Mundy	1808	James Edmonds and Thomas Baker
1746	William Mundy and Nich. Cheeseman	1809	William Walton and Josiah Stevens
1747	Nicholas Cheeseman and Joseph Ryley	1810	William Walton and Josiah Stevens
1748	Nicholas Cheeseman and Joseph Ryley	1811	George P. Polhill and William White
1749	Joseph Ryley and Christopher Banford	1812	Richard Muggeridge and Thos. Strange
1750	Joseph Ryley and Christopher Banford	1813	Thomas Strange and George Wilkinson
1751	William Mackrill and John Penner	1814	James Thomson and John Woods
1752	William Mackrill and John Penner	1815	John Woods and Charles Pepper
1753	William Mackrill and John Penner	1816	Charles Pepper and John Skyrarn
1754	John Pickett and Thomas Peters	1817	John Skyrarn and Chris. Bythewood
1755	John Pickett and Thomas Peters	1818	Christopher Bythewood and Harry Selfe
1756	Joseph Mackrill	1819	Harry Selfe and John Smallpiece
1757	John Clark and Thomas Ryley	1820	John Smallpiece and James Fricker
1758	Thomas Ryley and Benjamin Whiley	1821	James Fricker and James Carter
1759	Thomas Ryley and Stephen London	1822	James Carter and James Attfield
1760	Thomas Ryley and Stephen London	1823	James Attfield and William Mercer
1761	Thomas Ryley and Stephen London	1824	William Mercer and William Pepper
1762	Thomas Ryley	1825	William Pepper and Samuel Allenby

1826 Samuel Allenby and Wm. Pamphilon	1840 William Rowland and George Phillipson
1827 William Pamphilon and Robert Moon	1841 George Phillipson and William Row
1828 Robert Moon and William Geo. Scott	1842 William Row and James Nightingale
1829 William G. Scott and George Wadbrook	1843 James Nightingale and George Reynell
1830 George Wadbrook and John Reed	1844 George Reynell and Joseph Hollingdale
1831 John Reed and Samuel Redford	1845 Joseph Hollingdale and Wm. Shrubsole
1832 Samuel Redford and Richard Galley	1846 William Shrubsole and John P. Patman
1833 Richard Galley and Thomas Jackson	1847 John Prior Patman and Samuel Mason
1834 Thomas Jackson and Edmund Douglas	1848 William Pamphilon and G. Nightingale
1835 Edmund Douglas and William Squire	1849 George Nightingale and William Welch
1836 William Squire and Charles W. Taylor	1850 William Welch and Thomas Leonard
1837 Charles W. Taylor and Wm. Shrubsole	1851 Richard Hobbs and John Edmonds
1838 William Shrubsole and Benton Seeley	1852 Richard Hobbs and John Edmonds
1839 Benton Seeley and William Rowland	

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#### THE DATE OF THE OLD TOWN HALL.

It has been very generally supposed that the Old Town Hall was erected by Queen Elizabeth; but it is probable that she merely rebuilt a portion, or perhaps enlarged the original structure; for a part of the panelling now in the possession of Mr. Selfe consists of the Royal Arms as borne by Henry VII and Henry VIII only. They are quarterly I and IV *azure*, three fleurs de lis *or* for France; and II and III *gules*, three lions passant gardant in pale *or* for England. Supporters, a dragon *gules* (the ensign of Cadwaladyr the last king of the Britons) and a greyhound *argent* (for the House of York) collared *or*, the collar charged with a rose *gules* (the badge of the House of Lancaster). Henry VIII adopted the same supporters in his first Great Seal; but afterwards used a lion for the dexter supporter and a variety of other creatures for the sinister side of the shield. Edward VI and all succeeding Monarchs have had a lion on the dexter side. The unicorn being introduced from Scotland by James I.

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#### PAINTINGS BELONGING TO THE CORPORATION.

In addition to the portraits named at p. 65, the Corporation is now in possession of a fine copy by Châtelain of Guido's celebrated painting, "Michael overcoming Satan." It was presented, February 17, 1852, by Mr. Samuel Ranyard, who desired to commemorate the long connexion of his family with the Corporation.

## THE LEPER'S HOUSE.

At the beginning of the fifteenth century a house in Norbiton, situated near the Grammar School, was used as an Hospital for Lepers. It is said to have been of Royal Foundation: but nothing more is known with any certainty respecting it, than that, about the year 1316 the inmates quitted it, and, pulling down the building, carried away the materials. Its site was thereupon seized by the King's Escheator. The value of the land was stated at 6s. per annum.

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## PALACE.

After the death of Edward the Black Prince, his wife (Joan, the fair maid of Kent) retired to the Palace at Kingston with her son, afterwards Richard II, for the purpose of completing his education; and on the death of Edward III, at Richmond, the Lord Mayor (Walworth, a Kingston man) with the Citizens of London, waited on the Prince, and, imploring his favor and protection for their City, then threatened by the insurgents under Wat Tyler, soliciting him to reside among the faithful Citizens, and assuring him they would venture their lives and fortunes in his service, prevailed upon him to remove from Kingston and to take up his residence in London. From this time there is no authentic account of the maintenance of a Royal Household at Kingston.

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## THE PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATION

Founded by Dr. Mayo, was subsequently endowed with an annuity of £30 for the support of the Minister. The Presbyterians have no Congregation in Kingston; and the endowment has been transferred to the Independents.

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## THE COMBE SPRING.

DR. WILLIAM ROOTS, who has for very many years used water from this source, remarks that "in its pure and undulterated state, at the mouth of its Spring at Combe, it



is not at all affected in its constituent parts by floods, heavy rains, or any other adventitious circumstances. In the analysis of this water taken from the conduit immediately opposite my dwelling-house, and before its passage under the Thames through iron pipes, I never detected any ferruginous matter, it is entirely free from calcareous impregnation, and is therefore extremely soft: it contains also a slight portion of sulphuric acid, as well as a portion of magnesia.

No fur is deposited by it in tea kettles or boilers that have been long in use; and on the other hand it will dissolve and remove the fur already deposited from other waters. Iron pots and kettles, after a time, show the presence of sulphuric acid in the water, whence a prejudice has arisen against its use; but I have never found any evil to result, from its constant employment in washing or for culinary purposes. An objection has been urged against its use because it passes through leaden pipes; but this should not be, for the sulphuric acid, acting on the lead, soon forms a coating of insoluble sulphate of lead, and the water passes through the pipe (thus coated) without further change. Several pieces of the original leaden pipes laid down by Cardinal Wolsey are now in my possession, as sound after three hundred years' use, as on the day when they were first laid down. In the interior of these pipes is a slight film of sulphate of lead forming a sheath which has preserved the pipes from corrosion and the water from injury. The water is very beneficial as a preventative of the Stone in the human subject: and of its beneficial action no one has more reason to be thankful than myself: and it shews clearly how discriminating was the judgment of Wolsey, that himself, suffering grievously from this complaint, spared no expense or trouble in bringing from so great a distance, entirely for his own use and comfort, a medicine so salutary."

The following is the result of a qualitative analysis of this water, as stated by Mr. A. Garden of Oxford-street, "The amount of solid matter is fifteen grains to the gallon, and composed of sulphate of lime, carbonate of ditto, and chloride of sodium."

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#### THE TITLE OF BARON

Of Kingston-upon-Thames was given by James I to John Ramsay, esq. under the following circumstances:—

John, Earl of Gowrie, (the heir presumptive to the Crown) and Alexander Ruthven his brother, having invited James to their house at Perth, with the intention, as was afterwards affirmed by James's adherents, of putting the king to death, were slain by John Ramsay and others; and when on James's entry into England Ramsay accompanied him, he was rewarded with the title of Viscount of Haddington in Scotland; and, being a favorite with the king he was in 1620-1 created Baron Ramsay of Kingston-upon-Thames, and Earl of Holderness, in England. He resided some time at Norbiton-hall, and for a short period at Ham-house. He had three children; but they died before him: and the title consequently became extinct.

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EEL FAIR.

About the middle of May there is an annual migration of young Eels up the Thames at Kingston. They appear in shoals, giving to the margin of the river an appearance, not altogether agreeable; but their origin and their destination are alike matter of conjecture. It is reasonably supposed that these swarms migrate from the lakes in Richmond-park, where immense numbers are annually bred; and that they ascend the river, stocking the creeks and streams for some miles above the town. There is generally a crowd of eager men, women and children, provided with every possible vessel wherein to catch the slippery prey on the first intimation of their approach; and the animated scene has caused the occasion to be called Eel Fair.

THE END.



